

10-2-2008

Vista: October 2, 2008

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OPINION

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Q&A with
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MLB playoffs
page 20

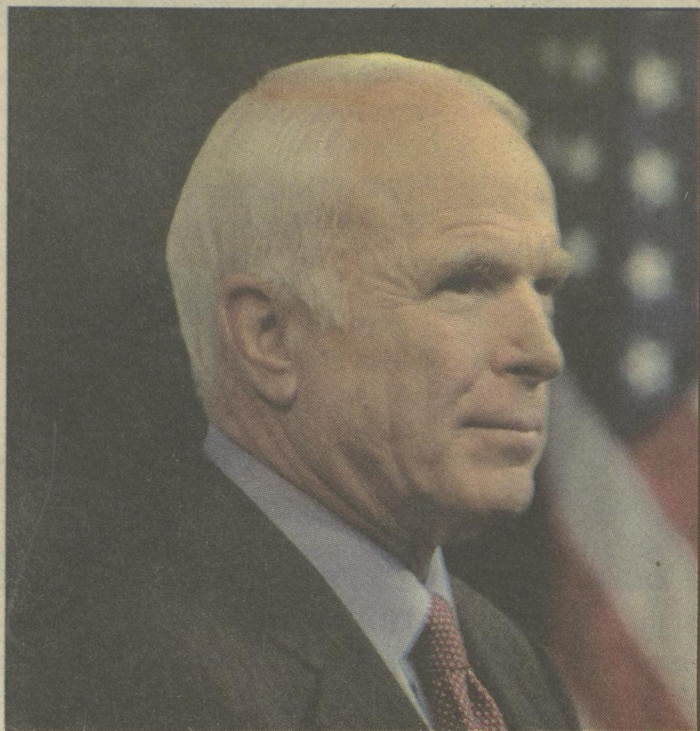
Thursday
October 2, 2008

The Vista

The University of San Diego • www.usdvista.com

Volume 46
Issue 3

Debate leaves no clear victor

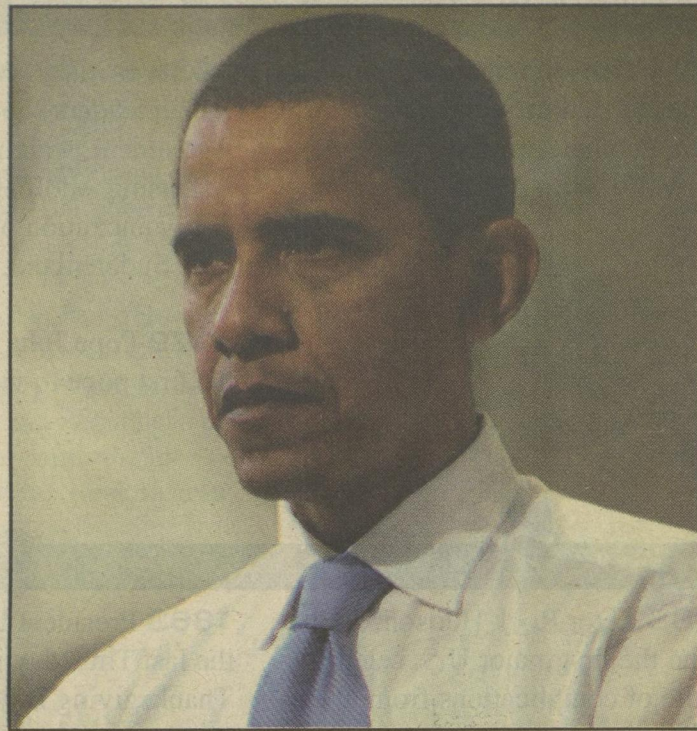


FLICKR.COM/TWINKLETOEZ

Last Friday, Sens. John McCain and Barack Obama faced off in their first debate as opponents vying for the presidency. While the country watched to see which candidate would dominate the discussion, both McCain and Obama focused on their usual talking points. There has been much deliberation since then as to who can be called the winner of this

Both candidates exhibit their personal strengths but fall short of public expectations when discussing foreign policy and Wall Street

NICK MILLER, ANNE SLAGILL
STAFF WRITER/NEWS EDITOR



ELIZABETH CROMWELL

debate. Political commentator William Kristol stated on Fox News: "There was no knockout and maybe even no knock down."

CBS published a poll on the debate suggesting a slight advantage for Obama but this may not spell victory for the Illinois Sen. The results: 39 percent in favor of Obama's performance and 25 percent in favor of McCain.

However, 36 percent of those polled felt that the first debate resulted in a draw.

The original discussion format favored McCain in that the debate was supposed to focus solely on foreign policy, an area in which most Americans feel McCain has the advantage. But due to the recent economic collapse on Wall Street, the first half of

the debate was reformatted to concentrate on the nation's economy, an area of focus where pundits believe that Obama has the advantage.

The beginning of the debate focused on the economic collapse in relation to foreign policy. Moderator Jim Lehrer, said, quoting former

See **DEBATE**, page 2

Choice to vote raises question of morality

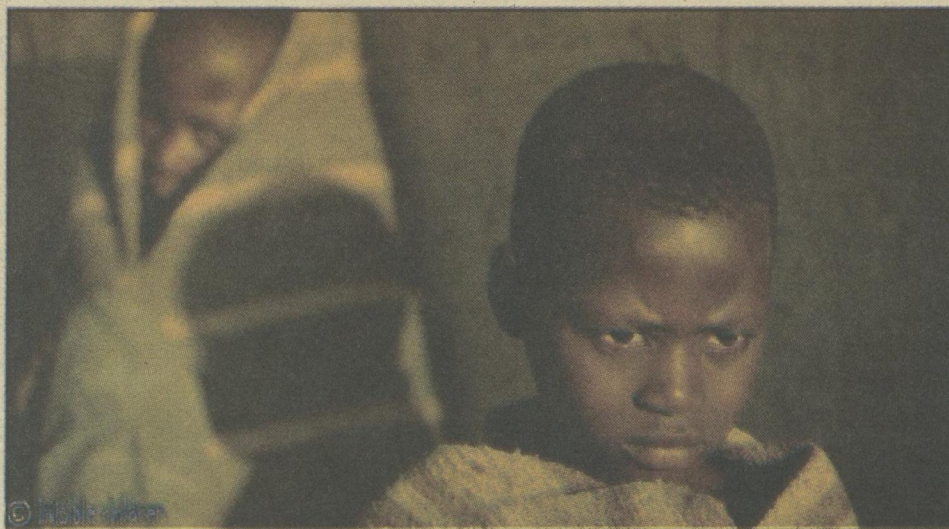
Do we have a patriotic duty to vote or a moral duty to abstain?

ANNE SLAGILL
NEWS EDITOR

The USD Philosophy club hosted a unique debate Monday night entitled "To Vote or not to Vote." The highlight of the discussion was Dr. Kevin Timpe's unusual view that voting is immoral. "This came up because I made some off-handed comment about democracy," said Timpe, a Philosophy professor.

Timpe argued that most people should not vote, because most people vote badly. Bad voting, Timpe says, is characterized by ignorance and bias. Furthermore, Timpe stated that democracy is inherently flawed because it values quantity of opinions over quality of opinions. He believes that not all opinions are equally good, and so

See **VOTE**, page 2



Invisible Children club seeks change in Uganda

DORIS VORONCA
STAFF WRITER

Invisible children may be haunting the world but they have found solid ground at USD. Thanks to freshmen Courtney Causgrove and Amanda Mathies, a new club on campus, Invisible Children, is giving students the chance to make a difference for children in Uganda. USD's club is a participant in Schools for Schools, a competition cre-

ated by the original non-profit organization, also named Invisible Children. While some of their objectives are centered on fundraising and hosting book drives, their primary goal is to raise awareness on this topic. "It's relatively unknown," explained co-leader Causgrove at their first meeting last Tuesday, "You can't stop a war if nobody knows

See **INVISIBLE**, page 3

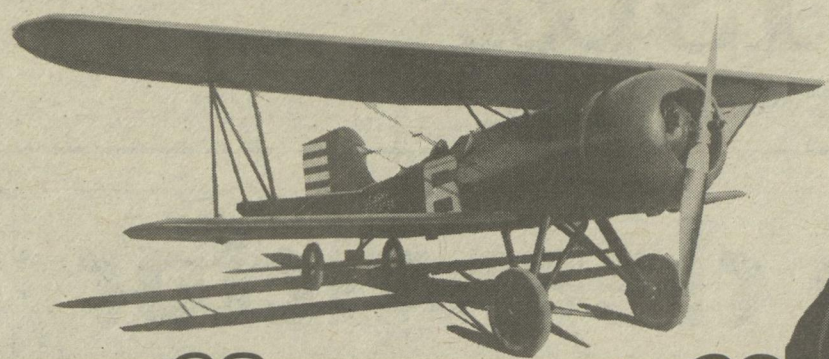
Dr. Brook speaks about objectivism

Criticizes election candidates

LESLIE CULVER
STAFF WRITER

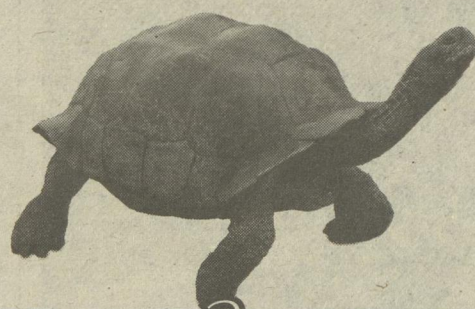
Objectivism is not a term one typically hears thrown about on a college campus like that of the University of San Diego. However, if one is lucky enough to spot a student reading "The Fountainhead" or "Atlas Shrugged" it may be mentioned. Ayn Rand, the author of the aforementioned novels, created a ripple affect in the philosophy world when she wrote those books. The theory of objectivism, created by Ayn Rand, has gained recognition, especially here in the United States. The Ayn Rand Center for Individual Rights helps promote the ideas of objectivism and the executive director of the institute, Dr. Yaron Brook, is considered outspoken in regards to government policies pursued by the United States.

See **BROOK**, page 3

THIS WEEK *In History*

28

1924 Two United States Army planes landed in Seattle, Wash. after having completing the first round-the-world flight in 175 days.



2

1985 Actor Rock Hudson, 59, became the first major U.S. celebrity to die of complications from the AIDS virus.

1863 Darwin returns to England after his trip to the Galapagos Islands.

29

1938 British, French, German and Italian leaders signed the Munich Agreement, which was aimed at appeasing Adolf Hitler by allowing Nazi annexation of Czechoslovakia's Sudetenland.

1979 Pope John Paul II became the first pope to visit Ireland.

3

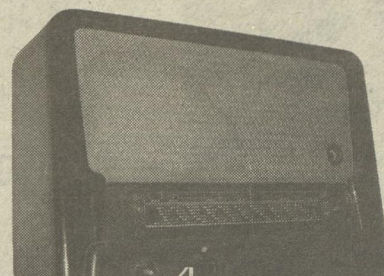
1863 President Lincoln declared the last Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day.

1922 Rebecca L. Felton became the first woman to be appointed a U.S. Senator.

30

1949 The Berlin Airlift came to an end.

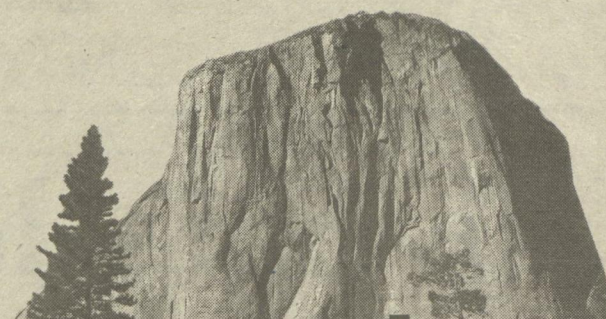
1955 Actor James Dean was killed in a car crash.



4

1922 For the first time the entire World Series was broadcast over radio (WJZ and WGY).

1949 The United Nations' permanent New York City headquarters is dedicated.



1

1891 Yosemite National Park was established.

1946 Nazi war criminals were sentenced at Nuremberg trials.



5

1947 President Harry S. Truman makes the first-ever televised presidential address from the White House.

1974 David Kunst completes the first circumnavigation of the world on foot. It took four years and 21 pairs of shoes.

HISTORY.COM, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

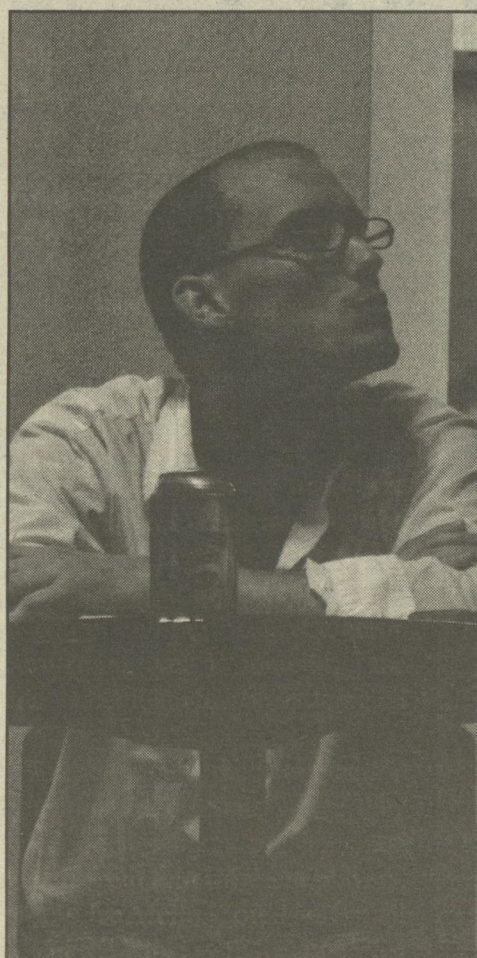
McCain, Obama
go head to head
Oct. 7

DEBATE, continued

President Dwight Eisenhower, "We must achieve both security and solvency. In fact, the foundation of military strength is economic strength." Obama pushed his commitment to alternative sources of energy as both a way to create new jobs immediately and as a way to free us from foreign oil.

As the debate turned to the war in Iraq, McCain emphasized his years of service as a senator and his time spent as a prisoner of war. He also pointed out the success of the increased military presence in Iraq, a strategy that as McCain pointed out, Obama did not support. Senator Obama retorted by stating that despite recent success, the war did not start last year. In fact, he opposed the Iraq war from its beginning in 2003; a stand that he claims was politically risky at the time.

The candidates are scheduled to debate on Oct. 7 at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn. and on Oct. 15 at Hofstra University in Hempstead, N.Y. The vice presidential candidates will debate tonight at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo.

All votes should not be given
equal weight in a flawed system

LIZ CROSBY/THE VISTA

VOTE, continued

should not be given equal weight. Our system, of course, gives equal weight to all opinions.

He compared the political system to healthcare. Most people would agree that a few expert doctors should be consulted regarding the proper treatment of a seriously ill person. Democracy, he said, is comparable to asking a room filled with random strangers to decide the appropriate treatment of a patient by show of hands.

Responding to Timpe's argument was Dr. Casey Dominguez of the Political Science department. She argued that voting is incredibly important for individuals because our system favors those who speak up intensely. She also addressed the common feeling that a single vote cannot make a difference "It is a big country, there are lots of opinions," she said.

In response to Timpe's argument about bad voting she asked, "How do we decide whose beliefs are better than others?"

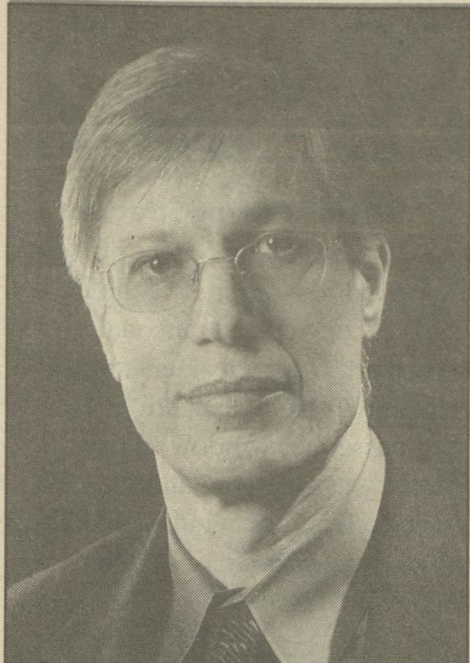
Timpe admits that he can think of no

real solution to the moral issue of voting. Still, he feels that it is not always necessary to suggest a perfect solution when pointing out a problem.

Shortly after the professors presented their arguments and rebuttles, students were encouraged to present their own questions. An interesting and engaging discussion followed:

John Rodeno, a senior Political Science student was enthusiastic about the debate, "This is an interesting question. I thought that it was a really fun debate because everyone tends to think that voting is good. The immorality of voting is a view that isn't usually discussed."

Even those who found Timpe's argument to be flawed took away one important piece of advice, vote absentee. Timpe urges those who intend to vote to opt for an absentee ballot because it is much more likely for a person to be seriously harmed on the way to the polling place than it is to cast a vote that actually makes any significant difference.



AYN RAND INSTITUTE

BROOK, continued

According to Brook, objectivism seeks to “use reason to understand the world and promote individualism to achieve the best lives that people can live.” The idea of capitalism fits neatly into this philosophy because it is “the only economic system that emphasizes the individual.” Objectivists emphatically take a stance against government intervention in its citizen’s private lives because as Brook adamantly stated, “government should only protect the rights of citizens, not

Brook criticizes both Republicans and Democrats for current policies

Politicians lack understanding of individual rights, he claims

regulate them.” Considering that the United States is currently facing an economic crisis that is affecting millions of Americans, the solution that objectivists propose, according to Brook, would be far-reaching. The current crisis was a result of “government policies that attempted to regulate far too much of the economy, such as individuals’ rights to own homes.” He proposes that the Federal Reserve should be abolished because it attempts to manipulate the money supply that essentially caused the housing crisis. In short, the U.S. needs to rely more upon private banks and abolish the Federal Reserve, which objectivists argue is attempting to unreliably regulate the economy.

Naturally, with the presidential election on the horizon, both candidates have been addressing the current economic crisis in their campaigns. Brook took issue with both political parties and their respective plans of action. Both parties “lack an elementary understanding of individual rights and they do not understand freedom.” He also criticized

both candidates’ foreign policy plans stating that, in effect, “McCain would support the Iraqi government, which has voiced anti-American sentiments and Obama would befriend people who would want to kill us.” He also commented on Obama’s plan for the nationalization of health care, stating that it is not a solution to the problems that the majority of Americans face. Both presidential candidates, according to Brook, clearly lack an understanding of the intentions of the founding fathers. Objectivists strongly disagree with the concept of collectivism, which both major political parties are currently promoting.

Since objectivists have such strong resentments toward both political parties, it would logically follow that they would be attracted to another party such as the Libertarian Party. However, this is not the case. Brook stated that “the Libertarian party is just as flawed as the Democratic and Republican parties and it therefore harms the ideals of objectivism in just the same manner.”

Brook then critiqued the current election by saying that it is “the worst election ever because both of the candidates are pacifists and show no regard for individualism.”

However, there are some people who have issues with the objectivist viewpoint that Brook so adamantly articulated. One professor, in the USD Political Science department, said that it is basically a philosophy that promotes “radical selfishness.” Objectivists, according to this professor, “have no regard for socialists or even people who are religious because they see these people as having no concern for their self interest.”

Ayn Rand, the creator of this controversial philosophy, created a school of thought that still has an application to today’s society and its problems, as Dr. Brook pointed out. The philosophy of objectivism does have a recognized following in the United States and will continue to have an effect on the future of American politics.



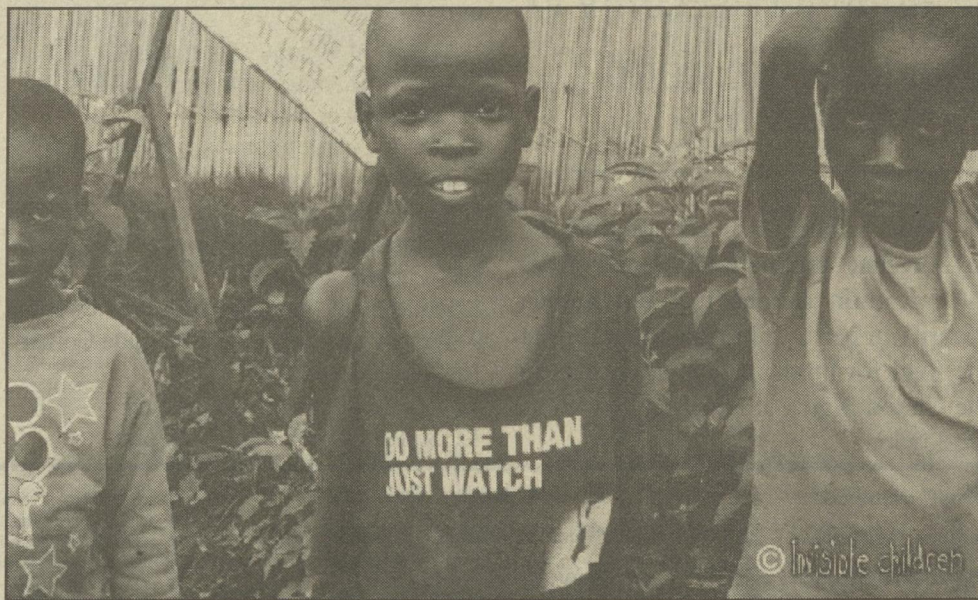
BRITTANY SHEPPARD/THE VISTA

Club seeks to bring awareness to plight of children

INVISIBLE, continued

about it.” Hence, on Oct. 18, at 7 p.m. (location to be announced), they will be screening IC’s newest documentary, “Go,” to educate the public about the struggles in Uganda and encourage people to join the cause. “It excites and inspires you,” said Causgrove. “Changing lives for the better is a powerful experience.”

Since 2003, IC has been working to reveal how, after 23 years, the war in Northern Uganda is far from being resolved. In 1987, Acholi extremists, reportedly on a mission commanded by the Holy Spirit, formed the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) and initiated an insurgency against the government of Uganda which has since become one of Africa’s longest-running conflicts. The LRA has been responsible for the murder of countless innocent civilians as well as the forcible enlistment of hundreds of children into their ranks. In 1996, in an effort to provide protection for their people against the looming terror of the LRA, the Ugandan government forcibly relocated over a million people to overcrowded camps where a



rapid death rate, caused by disease and starvation, decimated a significant fraction of the population.

When three American filmmakers created a documentary about this human rights issue, which had finally exposed the harsh reality of the Ugandan conflict to the Western world, the responses from their viewers made the young men realize that they were surrounded by individuals who were willing to lend a

helping hand. From this documentary Invisible Children was created, an organization carefully designed through research and communication with Ugandan communities to provide aid where it is most needed.

The main goal of Schools for Schools, one of IC’s offshoot programs, is to empower Ugandan youths with the necessary tools for change. Schools for Schools is essentially a competition

between clusters of American schools which participate in creatively spreading awareness and raising funds for northern Uganda. Each cluster is connected to a specific school in Uganda, which profits from the earnings through higher quality learning environments, books, teachers and materials. “That’s the best part,” said co-leader Mathies. “We will be able to see exactly where the aid goes and how it is used.”

The philosophy of Schools for Schools is that the children of Uganda should be of focus since they are its future. While general monetary aid might help communities in the short-term, education is seen as the building blocks for long-term developments. Since Schools for Schools began its program in 2007, millions of dollars have been raised and an increasing number of Ugandan children are no longer driven to night commuting, which is walking for miles at night for fear of abduction. Instead, they are beginning to envision possibilities which, only a short while ago, seemed completely out of reach. And at USD awareness of this has only just begun.

public safety report

Sept. 23 - Sept. 27

23 Manchester Village: At 5:50 p.m. Resident Assistants cited one student for smoking in his residence.

Off Campus - Goshen and LV:

At 1:05 a.m. Public Safety officers responded to call from SDPD regarding two intoxicated USD students, one of which was vomiting in a taxi cab off-campus. Upon investigation, the two resident students were able to care for themselves and were escorted by Public Safety to their rooms.

Mother Rosalie Hill Hall: At 12:02 a.m. Public Safety officers responded to a report of a suspicious individual following a university employee. Upon investigation, the suspect was identified as a Private Investigator and was advised not to conduct his business on private property, and was asked to leave campus.

24 Palomar: At 12:34 a.m. Public Safety officers responded to a report of a female resident student being inappropriately touched and followed by a male suspect in the Palomar Courtyard area in the Alcala Vista apartments. The female student also indicated that the suspect exposed himself to her at the time of the incident. The suspect is described as being possibly of Middle Eastern descent, approximately 5'6"-5'7" feet tall with dark complexion and a slim build.

Alcala Vistas Area: At 5:02 p.m. Public Safety officers were advised that a non-student with a current Temporary Restraining Order against him was on campus. SDPD was also requested to respond to the scene. The subject was arrested for being in violation of the TRO.

25 Manchester Village: At 6:30 a.m. Public Safety officers responded to a report of a non-USD affiliated delivery-person stealing a vacuum from the University Center. Upon investigation, the vacuum had been left unsecured and unattended. Video surveillance and witness statements were reviewed and his company was contacted. The suspect and his supervisor returned the vacuum.

Alcala Vistas W Parking: At 11:09 p.m. Public Safety officers responded to a report of erratic driving in the Vistas parking lot. Upon investigation, both individuals in the vehicle were determined not to be affiliated with the university. SDPD responded and one individual was arrested for being under the influence of and possession of marijuana. Public Safety issued no-trespass orders.

26 Mission Parking Structure: At 3:29 p.m. Public Safety officers responded to a report of a theft of a GPS device and personal paperwork from a resident student's vehicle. Upon investigation, the back passenger window of the vehicle was shattered and the GPS removed from the windshield. The vehicle was secured. No other items were missing.

27 Alcala Vista Area:

At 2:52 a.m. Public Safety officers responded to a report of a possibly intoxicated individual that was running in an erratic manner across campus. Upon investigation, the resident student was determined to be too intoxicated to care for himself and was voluntarily transported to detox (BAC .168).

IPJ Lecture Series presents "Integrating Security, Development and Human Rights"

MICHELLE DARNALL
STAFF WRITER

"How is it possible to craft human security in an insecure world?" This was one of the many questions addressed by the Distinguished Lecture Series presented by the Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice on Sept. 24. The theater was packed with members from the USD community including professors, faculty, staff, students and members of the international community to hear from distinguished speaker Louise Arbour, the former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Arbour focused on human security in connection with the three pillars of the UN- security, development and human rights Arbour used analogies to explain these pillars: security is like concrete, it is strong and more than likely includes a military component; development, like steel is very durable; human rights, are like glass, in a constant state of fragility and sometimes not visible. While

security and development have a long history in the U.N., human rights are more ambivalent.

Arbour emphasized that there must be a concentration on international human rights laws so that where major human rights violations occur, the international community must shift their focus and intervene when necessary.

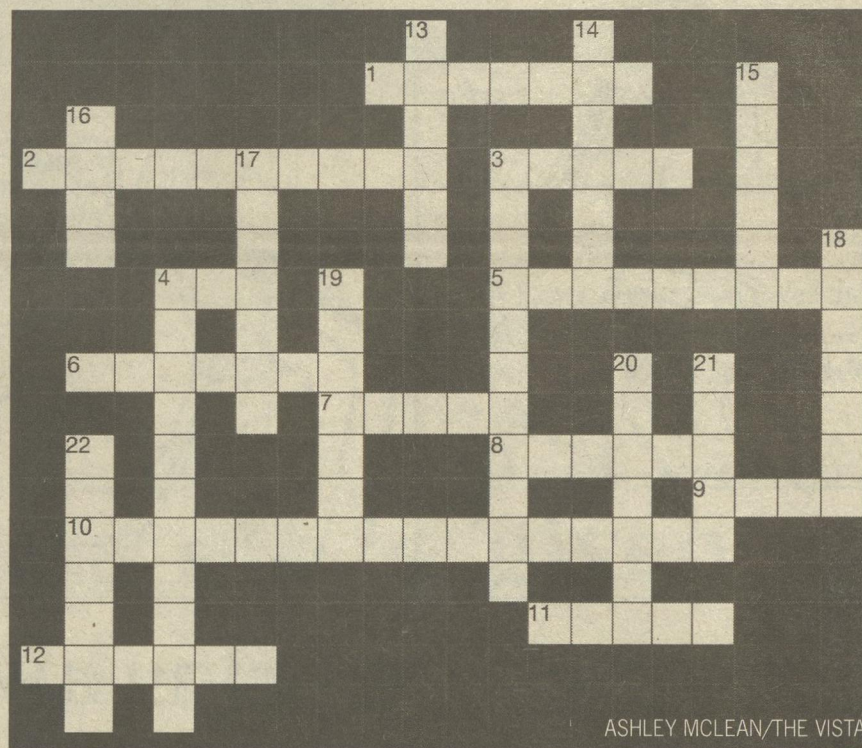
"How is it possible to craft human security in an insecure world?"

-Louise Arbour

Arbour concluded her lecture by saying that international legal order must restrain actions that put human security in peril, and this is the future of the fight for human rights advocates in the United States of America as well as worldwide.

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ASHLEY MCLEAN/THE VISTA

ACROSS

1. Last word of Scott's Ponderdome
2. Low vs Diamond interview with
3. Last name of first statue
4. Arts & Culture Editor misses this
5. TV show in Opinion
6. Senior goalkeeper's last name
7. " _ Intentions," one of my favorite movies (it just fit so well!)
8. Part of name of coffee house reviewed
9. Writers wear them in La Comida Corner
10. Nick and Nora's
11. Opinion Editor's column title
12. Stolen in Public Safety Report

DOWN

3. Widder's car was probably broken into with this
4. Fashion column section
13. "Do what you love, love what you do"
14. The Vista, USD's _ Newspaper
15. Last Public Safety Report area
16. "Big" hit of 10 across star
17. Center section of paper
18. Commonality of students in 17 down
19. Main character in 5 across
20. "Ask me about _"
21. Real Estate column page
22. Tebow is the reigning _ Trophy Winner

The Vista

Editorial - (619) 260-4584

Business - (619) 260-4714

Arts & Culture - (619) 260-7848

Fax - (619) 260-4610

URL - www.usdvista.com

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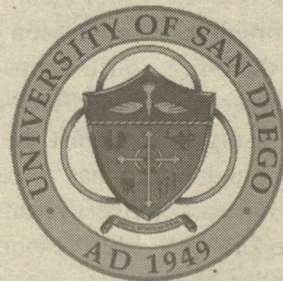
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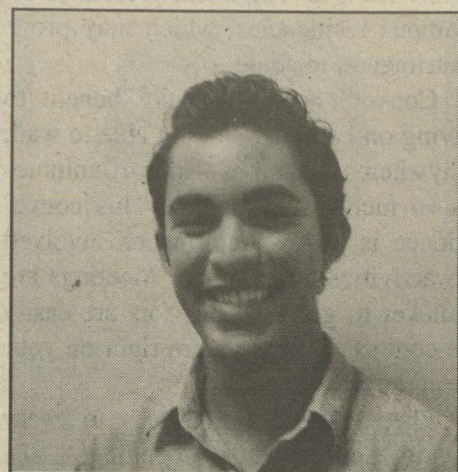
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The Vista
5998 Alcala Park
San Diego, CA 92110

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The few shortcomings of Aromas



GIOVANNI GONZALES
 CAMPUS FOCUS CO-EDITOR

My Fellow Students:

I write this letter to you in haste as I sit in Aromas. My computer is dying and there is much I'd like to say. For starters, I can't help but wonder why there aren't more outlets.

For most students, Aromas is almost considered a second home. It is a place to get a decent cup of joe, to socialize and ultimately, a place to ignore our never-ending reality of homework. But how can our professors and the university expect us to do homework, when there are only seven plugs available? I say that we as a student body need to band together and demand to have more plugs! As most of you know, whoever gets to the plug first is the winner. Well, maybe not the winner, but they sure are lucky.

My computer is on its last leg so I must hurry but I pose this last question to you all: what happened to the two-line system in Aromas? Every single time I go to Aromas there is mass confusion about which line to stand in. I feel like I am back in Italy where confusion reigns supreme. Whether you are standing in the express line, or in the regular line, there seems to be no clear order to follow. Inevitably, the line usually begins the moment that you step into Aromas and it only gets worse.

Useful information to remember is that the person that walks to the shorter line is not cutting in front of you; they just understand the two-line system. Ladies and gentlemen, there is a two-line system at Aromas, so please just choose a line. You will get your order in a timely fashion if, and only if, you make two lines. If not, confusion will continue to plague our dear little coffee shop.

**The Vista
 welcomes
 Giovanni to
 Campus Focus!**

The stoic and solemn statues of USD

CHRISTINE HORSMAN
 STAFF WRITER

While shuffling to a 7:45 a.m. class, it's doubtful that many notice the large statue of our university's founder next to the Immaculata. But amid the University of San Diego's picturesque Spanish Renaissance architecture, there are various statues of people who are significant in the school's history. Although the figures are often unknown or stand unnoticed, the people they symbolize have helped shape the school into the institution it is today.

In between the Immaculata and Aromas, there is a statue of the Most Reverend Charles Francis Buddy. He founded the University of San Diego in 1949 and served as its first president from 1950 to 1966. Buddy was the first Catholic Bishop of San Diego, serving from 1936 to 1966. The president of the Dan Murphy Foundation, Daniel Donohue, commissioned the life-sized bronze statue, and it was dedicated on May 28, 1987.

Outside of Copley Library, there is a statue of San Diego de Alcalá. This Franciscan brother is the namesake of the university and the city. The statue

is sculpted holding fruit and a basket of bread.

The statue of San Diego de Alcalá was a focal point of the current president of University of San Diego, Mary E. Lyons' inaugural speech on Nov. 1, 2003. "I find it pleasantly ironic that the library, the symbolic center of a university's intellectual life, is graced by the image of a simple friar, known for his piety, love of nature and care for the sick, but also known to be illiterate and uneducated," Lyons said.

In the courtyard of Maher Hall, there is a statue of Leo T. Maher. He was the Bishop of the Diocese of San Diego and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the University of San Diego from 1969-1990. This statue was dedicated on April 1, 1991 and was a gift from Helen Anne Bunn.

In front of Serra Hall, there is the statue of Fray Junipero Serra. He lived from 1713-1784. He was the founder of the California Missions. Between 1767 and 1823, these religious settlements were built by the Spanish Franciscan order to spread Catholic teachings to Native Americans. The statue was

donated by the William H. Hannon Foundation in memory of Eugenie B. Hannon.

In the Garden of the Sea behind the Joan B. Kroc Center for Peace and Justice, there are two statues. One is of Cardinale Seduto, sculpted by Giacomo Manzu in 1988. Manzu, who lived from 1908 to 1991, was an Italian sculptor, famous for creating the Holy Doors of St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City. The eight-foot four-inch bronze sculpture was a gift from Joan B. Kroc in 2003.

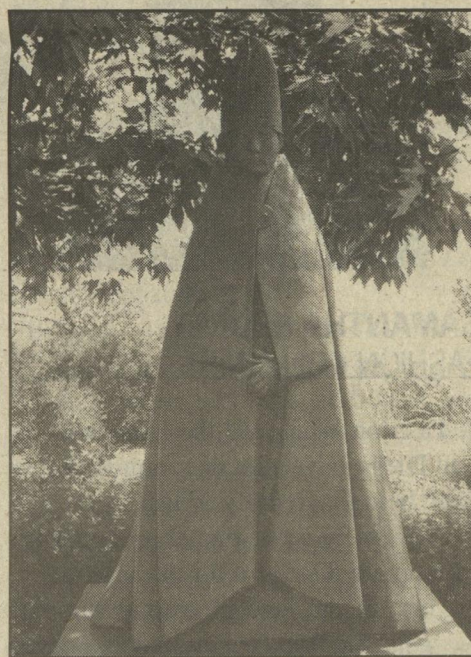
The other statue in the garden overlooking Mission Bay and the Pacific Ocean is a rendition of St. Francis of Assisi. It was sculpted by Beniamino Bufano. Bufano is a free spirited artist, popular in the San Francisco area. He was an outspoken advocate for peace, reportedly chopping off his trigger finger and mailing it to President Wilson in protest of World War I. St. Francis, patron saint of animals and the environment, is a recurrent subject in Bufano's art. The statue was given in memory of George M. Pardee, Jr. and Katherine M. Pardee and dedicated on Nov. 13, 2004.



MARIETTE NASCIMENTO/THE VISTA
 Bishop Buddy in front of Maher



MARIETTE NASCIMENTO/THE VISTA
 Fray Junipero Serra outside of Serra



MARIETTE NASCIMENTO/THE VISTA
 Cardinale Seduto behind the IPJ

SIX TEAMS REPRESENT USD AT AIDS WALK

CYNTHIA DUNCAN
 STAFF WRITER

The annual AIDS Walk in Balboa Park raised money this year under the slogan of "Until there's a cure, we'll keep walking!" The 5K walk and 10K run was presented by Nordstrom along with many other sponsors. Six different teams represented USD at the Sept. 28 walk: USD's School of Law, CASA, Criminal Law Society, Greek Life, Phi Delta Epsilon and Rainbow Educators. Together they raised over \$6,000 to go toward AIDS research and awareness.

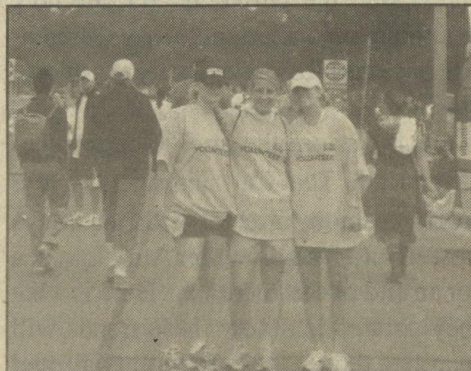
Thousands of men, women and children depend on the funds raised by this walk so that they are able to receive the care and treatment they need to live

with HIV/AIDS. The money is also invested into prevention programs around San Diego.

This walk began in 1987 as the Walk for Life. In 1989 it was renamed the AIDS Walk San Diego when an affiliation was started with the San Diego HIV Funding Collaborative.

Since that time, the AIDS Walks have raised more than \$7 million and includes roughly 8,000 walkers annually. Last year alone, \$500,000 was spread among 28 HIV/AIDS service organizations within San Diego County.

Funds are still being collected until Oct. 24 through sponsorships of a participant or through general donations. Go to aidswalksd.org to make a donation or to look into their online resources



RACHEL HORGAN/THE VISTA
 Sophomores Lizzy Blaylock, Rachel Horgan and Mollie Schultz stand under the finish line at this year's AIDS walk.

es about testing and outreach because, as their site states, "Knowledge is half the battle."

Words of Wisdom for the Week

MARIETTE NASCIMENTO
CAMPUS FOCUS CO-EDITOR

"Do what you love and love what you do." A phrase certainly heard by students as they prepare for their fast approaching "life after college" futures. Doing what you love may not always yield profitable results or at least not enough to pay your apartment rent! Do not fret if your passionate love for Kandinsky or "Star Wars" doesn't quite foot the bill. Not everyone can incorporate Jabba the Hut into financial advising or psychological counselling. Hopefully free time in the evenings or mornings, depending on your work and class schedule, can be found to enjoy a round of tennis, a good book or a stroll down the boardwalk. Even little things can brighten your day so next time you are feeling down, do something you enjoy even if it is a 15 minute bike ride on your beach cruiser!

There is no place like home

MEREDITH SCHNEIDER
STAFF WRITER

When you look out your bedroom window, what do you see? If you are a resident of Camino/Founders or Maher, you will see the intensely manicured-lawn and classmates heading to class or playing Frisbee. You might also see a wedding party, a school field trip, tourists or your English professor. In that perspective is living on campus the most comfortable situation for a student? It is certainly the most convenient, but does it actually feel like home?

Living on campus is a transition for those who are used to the idea of privacy. Not only is there the communal bathroom issue, but there is also the fact that the vast majority of dorm-occupiers are forced to live with someone that they hardly even know, if at all.

Parking is consistently an issue and there are still various limitations that restrict "freedom."

Another major concern is the dis-

tractions that present themselves on campus. Everyone around you is your age and wants to socialize. Even with the "consideration laws" and "silent hours," there is always something going on. "In Missions A there were definitely more distractions than this year in my apartment in San Buen. It has a lot to do with personal space vs. common space," explains sophomore Shannon Cajka.

Senior Mackenzi Eddings preferred her second living space for studying. "Sophomore year in The Vistas I still shared a room but there was a separate living room so I could sit in my room and study while people hung out in the living room."

In the past four years, Eddings has lived in Missions B, The Vistas and La Jolla/UTC. Her experience both on and off campus has led her to the conclusion that off-campus is superior. "It is cheaper to live off-campus for the most part. It is by far the best place to live. You get to pick your location and who you live with. You don't have to share a room if you don't want to."

Resident Advisors are a major advantage to living on campus. Not only are they there to make rounds and enforce campus rules, but they are also there to make our transitions into college easier. "I feel safe because our RAs are really nice and informative," freshman Becca Lovano says with a grin. The familiar smile from an RA is not present at off campus residencies, which may prove detrimental to some.

Convenience is a major benefit to living on-campus. "Being able to walk anywhere on campus within 10 minutes is so nice!" said Cajka. This convenience is a key factor when involved in activities on-campus. Meetings are quicker to get to, professors are easily in contact and events are right on your front lawn.

There are pros and cons to every living option while attending USD. Your personality and preference should be the deciding factor. Either way, it is important that research be done so that you get more "bang for your buck."

Fashion Week tells of the latest trends



SAMANTHA SHOREY
FASHION COLUMNIST

Fashion Week and the University of San Diego have a lot in common. Aside from being incredibly stylish and full of women, there is one more big similarity: a complete disregard for the season.

Here in the land of eternal summer we wear flip flops year round and never bring out our winter coats.

Although the most recent fashion week is two weeks behind us, we won't be seeing those styles until spring. So let's back track a bit and take a look at last February. This is when designers showcased the fall styles that are now available at retailers near you (remember our little lesson last week, fashionistas?)

Each season, the style blogging be-all-end-all, The Cut, interviews New York fashion director Harriet Mays Powell and fashion writer Amy Larocca for an end of season re-cap. Here is what they spotted and how these trends will manifest themselves off the catwalk and on the USD sidewalk.

The Silhouette:

According to the experts: Lovely long and lean silhouettes dominated the strutting last spring. Models at Rag + Bone were skin and bone in their skinny jeans.

What this means: Even though the wide-leg denim style has made waves,

those skinny jeans you bought two years ago are still going to be a staple of your wardrobe. We'll see them here with fun ankle-boots or booties and long tops.

The color:

According to the experts: Hello yellow! They saw a lot of rich and vibrant colors on the runway, with lots of yelling about yellow at Lacoste and Nicole Miller.

What this means: No need to take the look of a bad Beatles song seriously. Pick a few key items like a top or a bag in this color but don't go overboard. If this color is big now, it will look dated in a few years and isn't worth the investment.

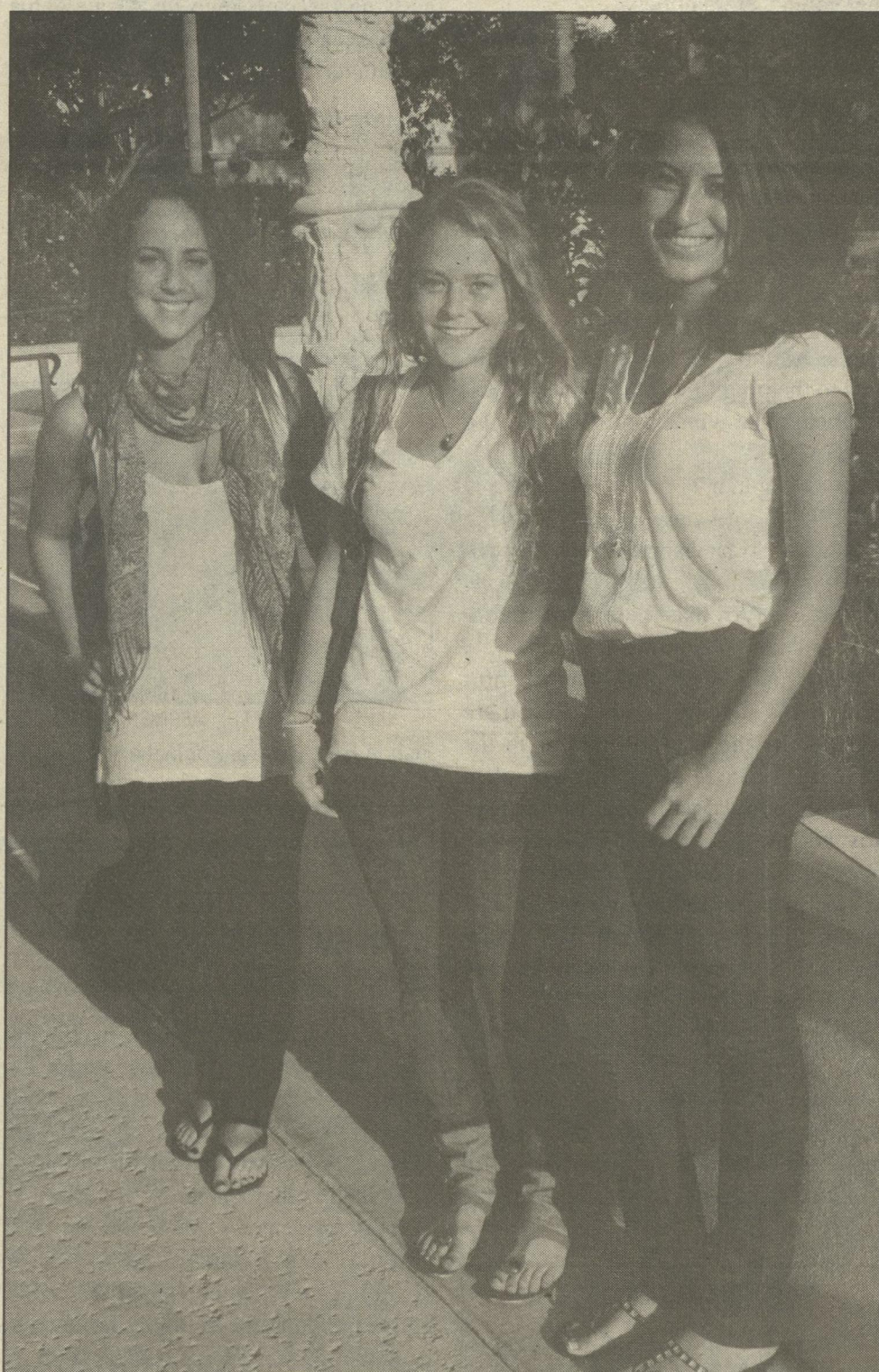
Bottoms up:

According to the experts: panty hose aren't just for house wives or Hooters girls. Everyone is getting on the tight-train. Lindsay Lohan has been conducting, and toot-toot, all aboard! Proenza Schouler and Erin Fetherston, two shows that got rave reviews, got it right with tights. And men have even been spotted in what The Cut terms "manty-hose."

What this means: Remember how you cringe when you look at those childhood pictures of you in stretch pants?

Well, take a few notes from yesterday. Leggings were basically the last trend anyone expected to come back and stick around for that matter. But leggings have new legs and have been seen down to the ankle in fine company with footed tights. Tights in lace and jewel-tones were also spotted on the runways for the adventurous USDiva.

As for you gentlemen, maybe we should leave the men in tights to Robin Hood, but I'm all for testing the lines of traditional gender definitions, so more power to you!



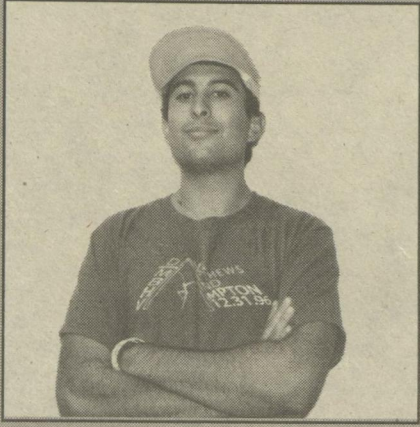
SAMANTHA SHOREY/THE VISTA

USD sophomores Michelle Parsons, Stacy Langton and Natalie Kunstadter modeling this season's best.

OPINION

Opinion Editor: Serge Seplovich
sseplovich@usdvista.com

Fall magic



SERGE SEPOVICH
OPINION EDITOR

It's that time of year again. The leaves begin to fall, the air gets crisp and all the new seasons of our favorite television shows start again. But most importantly it is time for the Fall Classic. October is here and with it comes playoff baseball. My Red Sox are back in the action, looking for their second straight World Series title and their third in five years.

As each year passes, I feel more obligated to support my team in their quest for another ring. I have been a Sox fan for as long as I can remember and my dream has always been to see them in person in the playoffs. However, going to Boston to watch a playoff game in Fenway Park has always been out of the question, considering finances. Airfare and lodging are expensive enough. But to add insult to injury, getting tickets for any playoff game at Fenway is about as likely as being struck by lightning and winning the lottery in the same day. But that doesn't stop me from holding onto that thin string of hope. Each year, I submit 20 plus entries on the Red Sox's website just for the chance to purchase the ridiculously overpriced tickets. The sad thing is that every year I don't win gives me motivation to fill out even more entries the next time around. But say I were to somehow win. What have I actually won? An opportunity to pay hundreds, most likely thousands of dollars, just to see my favorite team play. Great! Even if I were to win, I wouldn't even be able to afford my "prize." However, I'm still holding onto the hope that if I somehow am lucky enough to win the chance to purchase those tickets, I will also get lucky enough to figure out a way to come up with enough money to pay for them.

So, this year I have decided that I need to take what I can get. And what I can get are tickets to the American League Division Series up north against the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. It took hours of scouting on stubhub.com, but I finally was able to swoop on some decently priced tickets for nosebleed seats. Sounds terrible right? Wrong. At least after this year I can finally say that I have seen my team in a playoff game. But to be honest, I don't really care where I sit. I just want to experience the playoff magic first hand, even if it is in the opposing team's stadium.

Overcrowded eateries plague campus

MOSES UTOMI
STAFF WRITER

As I stand patiently in line for a pita at La Paloma, I get the distinct impression that I am doomed. My stomach was in open rebellion before I entered the charming little deli, but now my feet are hurting too. The staff is rushing back and forth in an effort to serve everyone, but the line still does not move. I play Pac-Man on my phone to waste time, but losing leaves me even more frustrated than before.

To top it off, the place is crowded. Impossibly crowded. Every 20 seconds someone comes in through the doors and mutters a quiet "excuse me" as they bump past me to hunt for a seat. The line itself stretches beyond the premises and consists of a mass of hungry students that flock in groups of three or four.

Eventually, I get my food and look around for a place to sit. It seems as though every seat is taken inside, so I go outside to look for a chair. Luckily, I find one and start eating.

The pita is fantastic. A big bang of flavor explodes in my mouth and my stomach sings in anticipation. The bread is light and soft and the warm, succulent meat is an excellent contrast to the crisp, cool vegetables.

This is the signature experience of La



RYAN BRENNAN/THE VISTA

Students wait in line for food during the typical, overcrowded lunchtime in La Paloma.

Paloma and the other on-campus eateries: pleasant eating and painful overcrowding. Though the establishments are typically free during most of the day, the lunch rush can be overwhelming and time-consuming. Spending more than a half hour ordering, checking out and finding a place to sit is not uncommon.

The atmosphere of the eatery is spot-on, the food is great and the selection is solid, but the congestion decreases the enjoyment one would typically get from the experience.

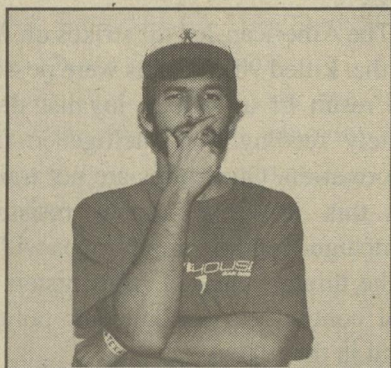
The problem is that there is not really a clear solution. The staff does their best and are constantly busy attempt-

ing to accommodate so many people. The task is simply too much to handle. I doubt that the massive class makes it any easier.

A DMV ticket system seems to be the best way to handle the overflow. An additional cashier would also be helpful in speeding up the process. The only thing worse than waiting too long for food is waiting even longer to pay for the food.

The construction of the new student center next year may help alleviate the madness, but for now it looks like this year is going to be full of long waits, overcrowded seating and frustrating games of Pac-Man.

Welcome to Scott's Ponderdome



SCOTT NOVAK
STAFF WRITER

Hello again, dear reader. I apologize for my absence, though circumstances were beyond my control (cough, Serge, cough). But allow me to accompany my return with a "ponderment" over which you may mull. When you think of Gandhi what words come to mind? Leader? Visionary? Saint? I've heard these descriptions used before, but there is one word I have never heard mentioned in the same sentence with Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi: gambler.

Gandhi was, undoubtedly, one of the most influential men of all time. He shone like a beacon of peace in the chaos of a broken India. He helped to unite the fragmented nation through his words and actions. But was his influence a result of wanting to end the terrible oppression, of which he had personally been a victim or was it a result of an escalating gambling addiction?

The signs are apparent: the desire to keep one-upping, go one step further, do the next thing bigger than the last, get

that same intoxicating rush that sucked you into the betting world in the first place. No bet is too big or ridiculous, so long as you're getting some action.

Just as any poor soul who starts down this harrowing path of habit-forming hell, Gandhi started out innocently enough, fasting in the name of the textile mill workers of Ahmadabad. The relatively short fast did the trick and a settlement was reached that raised the mill workers' wages. This is the moment I believe this benevolent man was bit by the betting bug.

Dear reader, I am all too familiar with this situation. Not long ago, an old friend of mine, let's call him Ronaldo, discovered he had the ability to eat ridiculous amounts of food. After consuming three Triple Cheeseburger meals at a Wendy's, complete with large fries and Coca-Colas, Ronaldo began goading unknowing acquaintances into bets involving absurd amounts of food. Each time he would gorge himself to victory, claiming the stated prize, no matter how inconsequential.

You might be wondering, what could my friend Ronaldo and Gandhi, one of the most selfless men of all time, have in common? Both have honed personal skills to a level that exceeds all reasonable expectations and chosen to use their abilities to exploit others. While Ronaldo merely took advantage of gullible friends, Gandhi exploited the political powers of India.

I imagine these manipulative bets went down something like this: Gandhi sitting around a room with his social reformist buddies discussing whatever

it is that social reformists discuss. One pipes up boldly:

"Hey, Gandhi, I bet you're too chicken to fast until they change the treatment of the untouchables."

"Bet you I will!" Gandhi scoffs.

"Chuckles and pillows thrown."

"You know what? I'll bet 10,000 rupees that their status in the Indian caste system will improve within the month."

"Ho, ho, Gandhi, you're getting too big for your dhoti. I'll take that bet."

Of course this is all speculation, but the truth may not be far off. In all likelihood he probably donated his winnings to charity or had a temple dedicated to his memory. The man who assassinated Gandhi was a supposed radical Hindu extremist. Political persuasions aside, I believe this man merely underestimated Gandhi's abilities, lost big and acted in the heat of the moment.

Dear reader, I call Gandhi a gambler, but the odds were so far in his favor that it can hardly be called gambling. However ludicrous the wager seemed, he always bet wisely. The fact that he apparently used these practices for the betterment of society is the only redeeming factor of his manipulative schemes.

Now whether or not you agree with this fantastical theory is not of my concern. As I said, it is merely a "ponderment" to consider. It is said that Gandhi was a great man, but it was the ever relevant Beastie Boys who said "Tryin' to change the world, I'ma plot and scheme." Perhaps it was this man's innate manipulative abilities that truly made him great. If that's true, there's hope for even me. Oops, I mean the world.

Housing confusion



PETER CHO/ THE VISTA

NEIL CHHABRIA
STAFF WRITER

So what's up with the housing market right now? I picked the brains of four top producing realtors in San Diego who are on the front-lines of this financial crisis to get the scoop.

Pete Middleton of Middleton & Associates, Greg Noonan of Prudential Realty, Gary Kent of Re/Max and USD's very own Seth O'Byrne of Re/Max all successful realtors, provided similar answers. With the housing market in its current condition, they have all increased marketing and advertising considerably to reach more people and create more exposure to them. Along with ramped up advertising, Middleton, Noonan and Kent said they have sit down meetings with their clients to discuss their needs for a home. Through this process, the agent helps his clients acquire the most suitable loan. This interaction creates a bond between the two parties and builds confidence in the client. Middleton sees himself more as a consultant or advisor rather than an "agent." Kent said he was able to foresee the down market and got on various bank list's of foreclosures so he could have first rights to sell them for the banks. O'Byrne has now shifted his focus onto buyers and foreclosures rather than listings as well as increased advertising due to his young but growing tenure in the industry.

With the evolution of the Internet and technology in general, realtors have lost a big advantage over the consumer because of the ease of access to information. Agents used to be the "gate keepers" of all information regarding a home for sale. Although resources like these have given the consumer an advantage, the four realtors still prosper in down markets because of their hard work and the value they add to a transaction.

The barriers of entry to this industry definitely present a challenge. A great number of people enter and exit the real estate industry due to their inability to produce transactions. O'Byrne, Noonan, Middleton and Kent all suggested that their success is a result of their hard work and dedication through the years. One thing is sure, real estate is definitely a career and deserves a genuine level of commitment to be successful. Merely having a real estate license and hoping to do a few transactions here and there is unrealistic in times like these when expertise is essential.

The next step forward in Afghanistan

JESSE AIZENSTAT
STAFF WRITER

Even if you were hiding in a cave in Afghanistan, I still think you could hear the roar from the American presidential election. Without rest, Sens. Barack Obama and John McCain passionately disagree on virtually every policy issue we face, but the war in Afghanistan is different: "Time for a troop surge," or "Refocusing on the Central Front"—they both want more troops. In a year, all these election promises will be over, and the next author for America's newfound saga in Afghanistan will begin. But just because these candidates' "grand plans" sound good on the campaign trail, doesn't mean that they will be the "right plans" for the future. Afghanistan is a vastly complex place that cannot be understood from the American political stump.

I don't want to sound pessimistic about America's hopes for Afghanistan, but we must appreciate that we have limits as foreign occupiers. It is up to the Afghans to ultimately purge government corruption and settle on a system that works for them. In the mean time, the West can provide some security and aid, but we do not have the legitimacy or the know-how to tackle these problems for them. This is why the U.S. needs to take a fresh look at Afghanistan for what it is, not for what we think we can make it.

Setting the Stage

From a Western perspective, it seems absurd that we haven't routed the Taliban. How could this medieval band of Pashtun fighters, armed with little more than a Kalashnikov and a Koran, withstand our Western force? Well, to start, our forces are having a hard time understanding how to handle these rural Afghan societies where the Taliban seek refuge.

As Canadian Brig. Gen. Denis Thomson said in an interview earlier this month, "I don't know that the Taliban [is] getting stronger ... The difference is they're not holding any of the ground they're attacking us on." So despite our air force, tanks and modern weaponry, it appears that we are about to enter a new phase of the insurgency. Realistically, how deep into tribal Afghanistan are we going to chase these guerillas? Or more to the point, what repercussions might we face by doing so?

In 1979, Leonid Brezhnev and the Politburo moved the Red Army into Afghanistan. Major cities like Herat and the capital, Kabul, were conquered. Looking back, it seems obvious why the Soviets, at the peak of the technologically-hyped Cold War would overlook rural Afghan tribal society. However, this same tribal society birthed the mujahideen, or "freedom fighters," who by using guerrilla tactics were able to bleed the Soviets into exiting Afghanistan. This is what the Taliban is trying to do today: bleed our forces by luring us to fight on the village level—a level that by definition, we foreigners, do not understand.

It wasn't always supposed to be such a cumbersome military production in Afghanistan. During the 2001



GIPE/ DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Afghan soldiers prepare to enter UH-60 Black Hawk Chopper in Khost, Afghanistan

American-led invasion, we were able to oust the Taliban with a light cocktail of American Special Forces and a band of anti-Taliban warlords known as the Northern Alliance. This coalition proved both efficient and effective in booting the Taliban from their role as the "legitimate" government in Kabul.

So what happened? Today's critics will say that this "light footprint" era has failed in Afghanistan. They argue that increasing our current troop level of 31,000 as of September, is necessary to defeat the so-called, "Taliban revival." But an Iraq-type "surge" as these critics often insist on, will not bring peace to Afghanistan. Rather, it runs the risk of inspiring Afghan nationalists to sympathize with the Taliban, thus making it near impossible for us to run operations in the villages that the Taliban now hides in.

The American-led air strikes on Aug. 22 that killed 90 civilians were possibly the result of a Taliban loyalist deliberately feeding our intelligence false information. Our troops are not trained for this non-conventional resistance campaign. Sending more troops will not make things better in Afghanistan and will continue to weaken our political hand in the region.

Redefining Our Military Policy

Frankly, the American public and our allies are uncertain about broadening our mission in Afghanistan, especially after the Caucasus flare-up between Russia and Georgia.

The Taliban know this, and they will continue to wage an insurgency to try to make it "not worth it" for the coalition. Germany and the Netherlands are already looking to significantly reduce their military commitment and, it's not impossible to understand why. Instead of trying to fight a costly counter-insurgency campaign, we would do better to focus on counter-terrorism. Besides, no one learned how to fly a plane into the World Trade Center from tribal Afghanistan anyway.

In a perfect world, we would like the central government of Afghanistan to secure its borders and assert its legal legitimacy in both urban and rural areas. But until then, some academics have suggested that a "troop redistribution" is needed to help transition the whole country under Kabul's control. While this proposal sounds nice, it would stretch our resources in a way we cannot afford. This would be a typical mistake

by the West, doing what we think would work.

Instead, we should look to the experts—the Afghans. One initiative would be to give the Afghan army a greater role in day-to-day security. Backed by our Special Forces, this combination would work to bolster the legitimacy of Kabul and help to discredit brewing colonial conspiracy theories.

Recently Defense Sec. Robert Gates came around to this very notion. Gates endorsed a plan that would provide \$20 billion to double the size of the Afghan Army to 120,000 active-duty troops. Unlike the notoriously corrupt Afghan police, the Afghan Army with its high morale is willing and battle-tested. Of course, they will be dependent on American trainers and equipment, but this is an investment worth making. Afghans are proud people and with the right support, they will show that they are competent to defend themselves against the brutality of the Taliban.

Looking to the Afghan Future

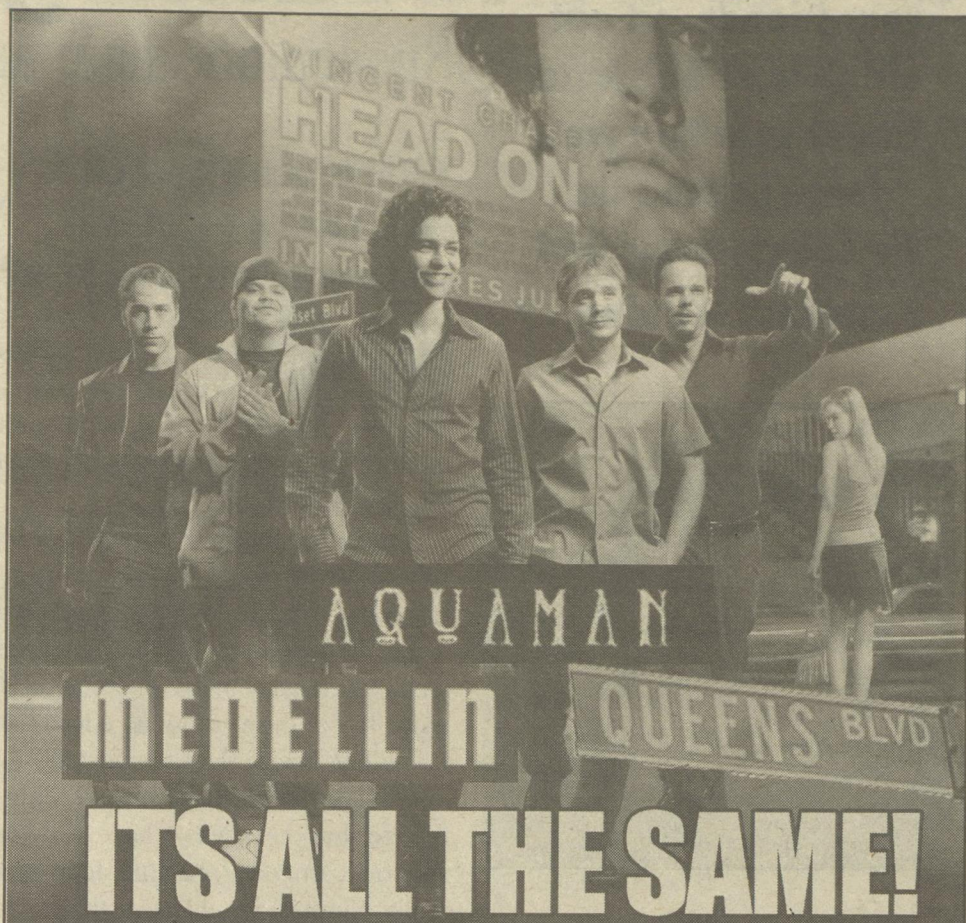
A strong military can help provide security for Afghanistan. But it will be the rebuilding that will determine what, if any, legacy we might leave behind. We must remind ourselves that we do not have the will, or the desire to occupy this country forever so we should focus on empowering Afghans to carry out local-level building projects that would directly improve their lives.

Large-scale projects may be easier for us, but as the British and the Soviets might say, that is just not how Afghanistan works. We should look to simple projects that include all of Afghanistan's ethnic fronts to create jobs and continue to avoid ethnic tensions.

As for Kabul, Western funding and know-how has been able to set up an effective central bank with a stable currency. Some might scoff at the concept of democracy in Afghanistan, but they do have an elected parliament, which has been perhaps the most effective method yet for distributing government aid to the countryside.

We can help rebuild Afghanistan, but we must recognize our limits. Both presidential candidates should realize that the more we try to "takeover the situation" the less incentive we create for the Afghan government to take charge and reform. We should not continue to tarnish our credibility and weaken our global authority by trying to do something that we simply cannot do.

The boys of L.A. never grow up Farewell to Yankee Stadium



PETER CHO/THE VISTA

STEPHANIE DAUWE
STAFF WRITER

The gang on HBO's "Entourage" is back in action for a fifth season, but unfortunately, the series is looking like it's going to crash almost as hard as Vince's new film, "Medellin." Ironically, the season premiere opened with an entertainment news anchor saying that Vincent Chase has moved from his list of "stars to watch" to his list of "stars to watch fade." Unfortunately, I think this "so-last-year" hit series is in the downswing as well.

Here's how they set things up: it's four months later; Vinny and Turtle are in Mexico getting laid; Eric started his own entry-level agency with a shack of an office that's practically wall-papered with pictures of Vince. Johnny is obsessed with video chatting, on his carefully placed Macbook Pro, of course, with his French girlfriend. And then there's Ari. Ari is just as Ari as ever, and I mean that in the best way possible.

I've come to the conclusion that the producers of "Entourage" have strategically written the characters to appeal to the basic types of personalities that people, namely men, struggle to balance out. So the first, and most obvious, is Vinny. Everyone wants to be Vinny. He's rich. He's smart. He's sexy. Enough said.

Next, we have Turtle. When you're really honest with yourself, you have to admit that everyone wants to be like Turtle at one point or another. He literally does not do anything, and he has millions of dollars at his disposal. Well, I take that back; he does get to drive the Escalade. Tough life.

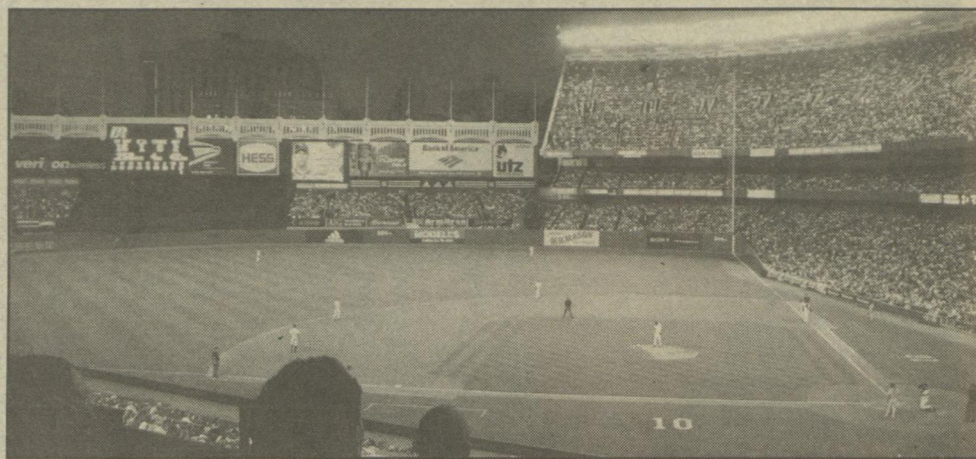
Next in line for mediocre worthlessness is Johnny Drama. Johnny's acting resume reads like a laundry list of cheap daytime television shows you're forced to watch when you're sitting at the mechanic waiting for your car to be

repaired. So at the five hundred bucks an episode Drama works for, I doubt he'd be able to support his lavish lifestyle without a lot of help from his little brother.

Finally, we get to Eric's appeal to that part of us who actually has motivation to get up and do something. He's in his late twenties, trying to get his business off the ground but still having a great time shooting the breeze with his best guy friends. In a sense, Eric is the slightly more realistic version of Vince who everyone wants to be.

So to sum up, we have the star, the slacker, the slightly annoying kid brother and the realist. Which one am I? I guess it depends on the day; but my point is, when you get down to the root of the show, there's nothing there. After I watch an episode, I'm not left pondering some philosophical question about life; I don't want to go get up and do anything life-changing or even day-changing. All I want to do is watch more "Entourage."

The thing that really bothers me about the show is just how painfully obvious it is. Who is their target audience? Males. Hence, the only thing they have to do to appeal to that target is throw in a few gorgeous half-naked girls, a little good rap music and some big fancy cars, and you've got yourself an Emmy. Of course, this just begs the question: where is the meaning? After watching the guys pull a "high school-esque" prank by throwing a dead fish on a recently acquired enemy's car, I came to the realization that this show is just about a bunch of boys being boys. At our age, we all hope, or maybe even believe, that the glory days will never end. For the "Entourage" gang, it's looking like the days of acting like teenagers will continue well into their thirties. If it can happen for them, it can happen for me, too, right? Only time will tell, but for now, I'll just say this: keep dreaming.



FLICKR.COM/JABELLA

CHRISTINE IMPERATORE
STAFF WRITER

I said goodbye to a dear, old friend last weekend. Unfortunately, I was unable to say farewell in person and instead had to do so through ESPN.

Okay, so my "friend" isn't exactly a person, but Yankee Stadium has definitely been a fixture in my life. My dad was born in the Bronx and I was raised in a small town on Long Island, N.Y., so really, Yankee fandom is in my blood.

Although I did not cry, but I will admit I may have, had I been at the stadium, the final game at Yankee Stadium was certainly an emotional event. Ever since I can remember, I have spent countless summer days or nights at The Cathedral. Whether we were cheering with the Bleacher Creatures during extra innings, or my brother was getting beer spilled on him by the Mets fan behind us, Yankee games with my family have always been one of my favorite things.

The ESPN telecast, although informative and reverent, could not possibly capture the true experience of actually being there. There's a reason why Yankee Stadium has hosted so many important figures, from the Pope to Billy Joel, and I think that reason is the sheer magic in the air that you cannot help but feel when visiting.

Whether you are a fan or not, I really feel sorry for anyone who did not have a chance to visit before its closing. There is just something about the combination of, as captain Derek Jeter said himself, "the greatest fans in the world" and the knowledge that so much history was made within those walls, that one

cannot help but feel as if they are, at that moment, a part of something great.

The history lesson that ESPN provided beforehand was significantly informative. Even I, a die-hard fan, learned a few things from it. I still could not help but feel a sense of sadness that I was not actually there. I wished that I could have made the trip on the Long Island Railroad and then the subway, and sat in one of those blue plastic seats one last time.

I think that the telecast was sufficient for the rest of the country, but for Yankee fans, it fell a little short. The YES network, which is dedicated to all things Yankees, probably had better coverage. However, like I've said, nothing could possibly compare to actually being there.

I feel grateful that I had the opportunity to visit the stadium on so many occasions. I know that I am fortunate to have had those experiences, but it is saddening for me to realize that I will never be able to take my children there one day.

In a commercial played on ESPN throughout the telecast, Yogi Berra said, "It ain't over when it's over, because Yankee Stadium will still be right here," as he pointed to his heart. Thanks to him, I've realized that I don't really have to say goodbye, I still have all the memories inside of me and I consider myself lucky for that.

There is no doubt that the new stadium will be amazing and I can't wait to see it when I go back to New York next summer. And with its departure, the old Yankee Stadium will now become what it was truly meant to be: a legend.

Taking a page out of T.O.'s book

SERGE SEPLOVICH
OPINION EDITOR

In the Redskins' upset over the Cowboys, Redskins' running back Rock Cartwright decided to celebrate by dancing on the center star. Tank Johnson, Dallas's defensive tackle, had to be restrained from going after Cartwright. In a Yahoo sports article, Johnson was quoted saying, "This is how it is. When you win, you win with class. When you lose, you lose with class...It's the fourth game of the season. No one has accomplished anything but a win. That's just disrespectful and I don't think we'd do that to them. And I'm surprised he did that to us." Now, I agree with Johnson. Cartwright dancing on the star was the furthest thing from winning with class.

However, Johnson's actions lacked the same holier-than-thou attitude he demands from his opponent. Not only did Johnson foolishly try and fight Cartwright, but he also had the audacity to talk about class. This coming from the guy who was charged with aggravated assault and resisting arrest back in his days with the Bears. Obviously, Johnson is far from a beaming beacon of class. In addition, Johnson is teammates with Terrel Owens, the player who invented the dance on the star back when he played for the 49ers. To avoid looking like a hypocrite, Tank should have just shut his mouth, walked back to the locker room and let the media and fans be the judge of class. Like he said, it's just one game won, and lost. And after all, the better team won that night.



ALAINA VRONTIKIS

"Try to meet classmates in your different classes, because it is a good experience to hang out with people who are not into the same interests out of class that you are." -Stacey



STEPHANIE KISHBAUGH

"Sleep when you are dead." -Stephanie



STACEY HARDE

"Always make time for your friends, sit outside, don't be afraid to get your hair wet, dance in the rain, be spontaneous and smile." -Alaina



SPENCER ANDERSON

"Stay as long as you can, you've got to cherish it, you do..." -Spencer (Billy Madison)



CHRISTOPHER MANGUM



JUSTIN KOPICKI

"Live in New York City once, but leave before it makes you hard. Live in California once, but leave before it makes you soft." -Justin (The Sunscreen Song)

What is one thing you didn't know about USD when you first came here?

Alaina Vrontikis- "The cars! There are really nice cars on campus and just the wealth in general: people's clothing, accessories and even the new buildings."

Justin Kopicki- "It was a Catholic school, so I thought that the religious influence would be a lot stronger than it is. It is present but it is more of what you make of it. There is a lot more freedom in religious education. It is more liberal than I expected."

Christopher Mangum- "I didn't realize that there was a lack of diversity on campus. I had no idea how many people I would meet that could not be comfortable in being different or even just be themselves."

Stephanie Kishbaugh- "I wished I would have known how important it is to get to know your professors. I found not only how amazing the faculty is but how you can build personal relationships with them as well... Oh and I know what a ripoff meals are, I would have just stuck to campus cash."

Stacey Hardke- "I wish I had known how amazing the Masters of Fine Arts Program was at USD. It was something I didn't learn until later. I love how the undergraduates get to work directly with the graduates, who are professional actors, as well as the faculty."

How has senior year been different than you thought?

Spencer Anderson- "I thought I was going to be really busy but I actually have a lot of free time. Although I am taking 18 units to graduate on time, I still have ample time for fun."

Vrontikis- "I thought I would be so stressed this year, but I have things pretty much under control. I feel more prepared for my tests because I now know how to study, I have more free time and my stress level is lower than usual."

Anderson- "I thought that senior year would be a lot easier, but there is no downward slope. It still is as much or more work than previous years."

Mangum- "I feel like I have a lot more freedom with my classes. I got to choose good professors and learn about subjects I wanted to focus on. I am gaining knowledge in issues that interest me from teachers I respect."

Kishbaugh- "I thought senior year was supposed to be easier because we are the highest class in the school. But everyone I know has so much work and is busier than ever. It makes me even more proud to be a Biochem-

istry major. It says something about our maturity in how heavy our load is senior year and how we have grown in our ability to balance courses on top of work and balancing extracurricular activities."

Kopicki- "Playing saxophone and piano, tennis and forming a really good wine collection..."

Kishbaugh- "I have fun memories of hanging out in the residence halls and just being able to go down the hall or to the next building. For some reason I was never in my room but had fun times in someone else's."

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SETH O'BYRNE

& THE O'BYRNE TEAM

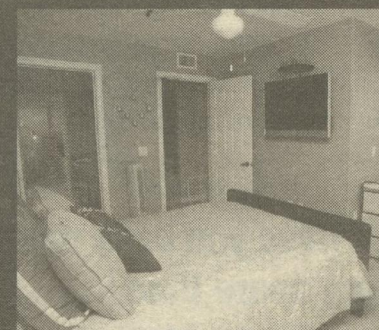
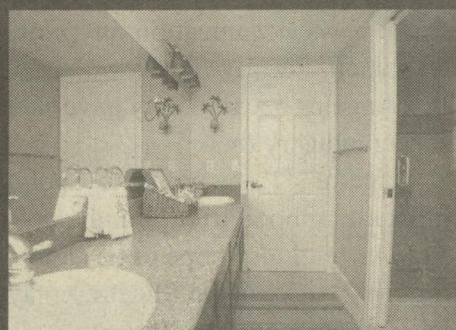
USD Alum and Housing Specialist

Just Listed - 3779 OCEAN FRONT WALK



4 bedrooms - 2.5 bathrooms - 1695 square feet - offered at \$3,300,000

Wake up to the sounds of the pacific ocean lapping at your feet as you lay in the enormous master suite, complete with wrap around windows overlooking the Mission Beach horizon. Be inspired by luxury coastal living with nearly 1000 sq ft of balcony space and ocean views from all of the 4 bedrooms. Beautifully designed and decorated, this 1700 sq ft home comes fully furnished with plasma TVs and incredible high end appliances. Slate and Travertine floors, granite countertops and bathrooms fit for a king and queen. This is a must see, come by today!



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& THE O'BYRNE TEAM

858.869.3940 cell

seth@sethobyne.com email

www.sethobyne.com website

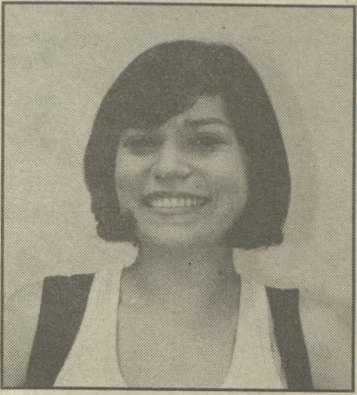
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ARTS & CULTURE

Arts & Culture Editor: Kaitlin Perry
kperry@usdvista.com

Hipster Blip Blog Alt-ness



KAITLIN PERRY
A & C EDITOR

As a writer I am fascinated by blogs. Each one is unique and creative etc. But only a select few are noteworthy and worth checking every day. Hipster Runoff is one of those blogs.

Hipster Runoff is a blog belonging to a guy who claims that his name is Carles (which is kind of too odd to believe). In his blog he basically mocks the essence of the "hipster," which apparently has a negative connotation these days.

Carles refers to hipsters as "Alts," implying that their life goal is to be an alternative cool individual and develop a personal brand, meaning a calculated image of themselves that they create so people see them as a hipster.

Every type of person, no matter their color, nationality or gender, can be an Alt. And all of these special groups get nicknames too!

The "AltBro" has a pretty obvious meaning. They have the essence of the "bro" but the goals of the Alt. The "AltBag" is a hipster douchebag. My personal favorite, solely for the absolute silliness of the phonetics of the word, is the "Blipster," a black hipster.

The most recent posts have been about Mark the Cobrasnake, party photog "extraordinaire" and his status as an AltBro and an AltBag because his photos suck and he's contributing to the overwhelming hipster population.

I'll pause for a second to explain what a hipster is exactly. Some people generalize hipsters as kids that shop at Urban Outfitters and American Apparel and listen to "indie" music. That is not true.

A hipster is someone that tries really hard to let people know that they shop at Urban Outfitters and American Apparel and listen to bands such as Justice and MGMT and Steve Aoki. They make sure to attend every show solely to brag about it.

What's sad about this is that they are so obsessed with their personal brand that they can't enjoy the moment. They dress for Cobrasnake pics in hopes they will end up on his website in their thrift store and American Apparel outfit while smoking a cig. They should take a moment to enjoy the music and wear jeans and a t-shirt.

Life's not as bad as they pretend that it is and Urban and AA are too expensive to base an entire wardrobe on. Check out the blog: hipsterrunoff.com.

P.S. I really miss my cat. K thx bye.

Michael Cera and Kat Dennings talk movie

KAITLIN PERRY
A & C EDITOR

Michael Cera and Kat Dennings, stars of "Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist," held a Q&A with newspapers all over the nation in order to promote their new film, which hits theaters tomorrow.

Q: This movie is about a crazy night following an underground band. Can you tell me the craziest night you've ever had?

Kat Dennings: We had some crazy nights filming the movie. Well you know, middle of the night in New York City, drunk people throwing things, yelling at us, wanting us out of their places where they like to be. I understand, I totally understand. I think they'll be happy though when they see it. We got kicked out of a music store, because we were kind of disrupting their sales. We went in and we all started to play the instruments and kind of have a jolly time, and they were like, "You're ruining our store."

Q: What instruments do you guys actually play?

Michael Cera: Maracas.

KD: I play the cowbell.

Q: Why do you think audiences will connect with this film?

MC: I think Pete has a really authentic directing style and he really captures this kind of tone of like a one night adventure kind of thing. He does it really truthfully, I think. And anyone who has had a night like this or gotten to know someone over a ...

KD: Or wanted to have a night like this.

MC: Yes, made a friendship over a condensed period of time can relate or at least fantasize about it.

KD: I agree. One thing that is really cool about watching the film, is that it is joyful and fun and adventurous when you watch it.

Q: You guys have a kissing scene in the film. How do you prepare for a scene like that?

KD: You brush your teeth.

MC: Eat a sandwich.

KD: Michael eats sandwiches and I brush my teeth, because I'm from Philadelphia and that's how they do it there.

MC: I eat a toothpaste sandwich.

Q: This movie is a comedy and I feel that what made it funny was its honesty. It felt like these were people you know. Do you ever see yourself in the characters you play?

KD: I think you can't help but see a little bit of yourself in the characters that you play. But the further I get from production, the more differences that I notice.

Q: What were some differences you noticed?

KD: My character's mannerisms were something that I adopted during filming that I sort of mistook for my own mannerisms. But as I moved on, I realized that it sort of just came from immersing myself in the movie, so you mistake yourself for your character.



SONY PICTURES

Nick (Michael Cera) and Norah (Kat Dennings) enjoy a tender moment in the middle of a crowd in the new film, "Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist," in theaters tomorrow.

Q: How about you, Michael?

MC: I didn't really have too many things in common with the character. I mean I think there are certain things that everyone can relate to. But nothing really that was too close to myself.

Q: What is it like working on a movie, based on a book, compared to working on comedies that can be improvised and changed like "Charlie Bartlett" or "Superbad"?

MC: No difference to me. I mean those movies still have scripts and structure and that dictates what scene you're going to work on and what is going to happen in it that's going to drive the story. But in terms of scheduling and procedure it's the same, it's just that there's less of a strict dialogue situation. And with this movie, we could say whatever we wanted because the only real story was like us getting to know each other, so it was kind of irrelevant what the conversations were that we were having.

KD: Yes, interestingly enough "Charlie Bartlett" was pretty script driven. I don't recall improvising that much on "Charlie Bartlett" at all. This was filmed during the writers' strike. But like Mike said, it's all just us getting to know each other and liking each other, so it kind of didn't matter what we said, and we improvised a bit. I think it all flows pretty well if I do say so myself.

Q: Michael, were you drawn to the idea of playing a character that's in a band?

MC: The main draw was working with Peter because I was a big fan of his and I thought the story was good and that he would be good for it. So that was really the draw. The band was just part of the story; it didn't really bring me to it.

Q: What was your favorite artist featured in the movie?

MC: I like Bishop Allen and Vampire Weekend.

KD: And I loved Devendra Banhart and I love Vampire Weekend, also. Get the soundtrack because they wrote us a song for the movie called Ottoman. It's really

great. You'll love it.

Q: If you were making mixed tapes for each other, what songs would you include?

KD: "My Life" by The Game, featuring Little Ian.

MC: That song by the Beatles called "You Don't See Me, You Won't See Me."

KD: The song "Never Talk to Me Again," by Little Ian.

Q: Who was your favorite cameo in the film?

KD: Andy Samberg was really cool... Devendra Banhart was exciting.

MC: Bishop Allen, the band. Seth Meyers and Lorene Scafaria.

Q: What was your favorite scene to film?

KD: I liked the drag club a lot. I liked filming that scene. I always wanted to film a drag scene.

MC: I liked all the scenes where we had some sort of conflict or some sort of adversity to overcome.

KD: Which was all of them.

Q: In the movie your characters are running all over New York looking for a band. What would you guys run all over New York all night to find?

MC: Oh, a child.

KD: Yes, if I lost like a family member, if there was an emergency, but probably not for leisure. I don't find those types of things relaxing.

Q: Michael, in the film you dub your haircut the "Ellen DeGeneres Do." Had somebody else given you that title?

MC: I can't remember. But I was surprised in the movie when I saw myself saying that because I had no memory of saying it. It was like that was the most tired day of the whole shot. We were all so tired.

See NICK AND NORAH, page 16

Lucas Field of Low vs Diamond talks strictly music

ANNETTE GARCILAZO
STAFF WRITER

Low vs Diamond can take pride in being called an American band. They may be living in L.A. now, but the members come from all over the country: Seattle (Lucas Field- vocals), Chicago (Howie Diamond- drums), San Francisco (Tad Moore- keyboard), and Atlantic City (Anthony Polcino- guitar and Jon Pancoast- bass). In 2007 Low vs Diamond came out with an early promotional, "Life After Love," and their self-titled full-length debut was released this summer in July. So far, they have received plenty of critical praise by the media such as iTunes, Filter, Spin, the Los Angeles Times and Rolling Stone, which described their music as "defining rock and pop."

Lucas Field, vocalist and a founding member of the band, found time to speak to me after having to replace the tires on the band's van and heading back on the road. I guaranteed Field that I would steer away from obnoxious and personal questions, so you'll have to find out those details somewhere else. This interview is strictly about the music:

The Vista: How would you describe the vibe of your music for those who have never heard of your band?

Low vs Diamond: It's pop music and it's rock music. There are classical-style songs centered on rock. We're like Carole King meets Pearl Jam.

V: Who or what has inspired you to make music?

LVD: I would say all the past music we've sat and listened to in the car. Movie soundtracks also inspire us with a nostalgic feeling; we want our songs to be like those moments in movies where you just get into the moment.

V: Are you aiming to follow in the

footsteps of a particular music legend or are you on the journey to make your own mark in music history?

LVD: We're just trying to do what we do best. You think you may know where things are going, but all we can really do is our best. Whether anyone else is going to see it, we don't know.

V: How does it make you feel when you've gotten huge music press, like iTunes naming you "The Next Big Thing" and making it on Rolling Stone's "Hot List"?

LVD: Excited. You can relate it to what you're doing- you're working hard to do your job and you get a "Hey, that was awesome!" or "That was really great!" We put our complete effort into what we do and for people to say nice things like that, we appreciate it.

V: Are you concerned with how your current fans will react when, and if, you do become a big thing and they lose you as their "secret band"?

LVD: We definitely want to maintain

a relationship with the fans, but as we start to play shows at bigger places, it will be something out of our hands.

V: So what do you have to say to those who use the term "sell-outs"?

LVD: "Sell-out" can only be used when you aren't making music you love. As long as you're 100 percent behind what you're making and each individual of the band is behind the contributions of each other, that's all that matters.

V: What would you like people to know about Low vs Diamond?

LVD: It is important for us that people spend some time with the album and that they listen to it a few times and then come watch us perform at a live show.

The songs on Low vs Diamond's album bring great advice on things from family to relationships to life in general. The vibe that Low vs Diamond brings to the crowd is as diverse as its

members and when the entire album is listened to, emotions will change from cheerful and optimistic one moment, to contemplative the next.

Low vs Diamond cranks out tunes that are easy for anyone to relate to- the feeling is genuine and their enthusiasm for music is evident.

Since the release of "Low vs Diamond," the band has had the opportunity to perform at the Pemberton Music Festival alongside Coldplay and Jay-Z. The band expressed excitement in their arrival to sunny San Diego. If you are interested in the American-bred sounds of Low vs Diamond, they will be appearing at the House of Blues with Santogold on Oct. 10 to supplement their Epic Records debut. And in their own words, "be there or be square!"

If you would like to check out this up-and-coming band on the web, their official fan site is lowvsdiamond.com and their myspace is myspace.com/lowvsdiamond.



EPIC RECORDS

Film makers and film watchers alike gather in Gaslamp

KAITLIN PERRY
A&C EDITOR

The San Diego Film Festival took place this past weekend at the Gaslamp Theatre in downtown San Diego's Gaslamp District. With a variety of film genres, including documentaries, music videos, children's films, short films and feature films, there was something for every single person that attended.

This past week, the short films were a highlight of the festival, providing audiences with 10-20 minute stories about everything from cannibalism to 9/11 to Cupid's arrows. Film festivals are beneficial for both the makers of short films and actors as they provide them with opportunities to further their careers and ultimately, in most cases, turn the short films into feature films.

Some noteworthy shorts include

"I Kicked Luis Guzman in the Face," directed by Shirwin Shilat, which features a cameo by Luis Guzman himself. "The Lutheran," directed by Brad Bosley, is a dark comedy concerning a bitter alcoholic minister that kidnaps a young boy to teach his abusive father a lesson. "Struck," directed by Tara Lexton, features a handful of cameos by actors such as Jenna Elfman and Erika Christensen; "Just One of the Gynos," directed by Brandon Olive and Alex Ranarivelo, features Creed Bratton from "The Office."

According to some of the filmmakers who stayed after the showing to answer questions from the audience, having stars in their small films was a big help in getting their films into festivals.

One of the standout feature films shown at the festival was "The Brothers Bloom." Starring Adrien Brody, Mark Ruffalo and Rachel Weisz, the film centers on two brothers who con

their way into the life of an extremely wealthy, young woman. Filled with exciting plot twists and the perfect amount of romance, the film makes one feel scared, makes them laugh and

makes them cry. "The Brothers Bloom" will be in theatres starting Dec. 19.

The San Diego Film Festival occurs annually and can be attended by anyone for prices ranging from \$300-\$16.



THE SAN DIEGO FILM FESTIVAL

Patrons of the San Diego Film Festival enjoying a screening. The San Diego Film Festival is an annual event that can be attended by any movie lover in the city or out.

An interview with Sea Wolf

AVERY DURNAN
STAFF WRITER

Uniquely named after the famous Jack London novel, the Los Angeles based band, Sea Wolf, certainly has a distinctive style. Their MySpace page cites every wolf-oriented band in the biz as someone that they want to be "JUST LIKE." This band recently signed with Dangerbird Records, the indie label home to The Shins, Fleet Foxes and Band of Horses. I caught up with the founding member and band leader Alex Brown Church right before his Wednesday show at Solana Beach's Belly Up tavern.

Avery: How did Sea Wolf begin?

Alex Brown Church: I started the group on my own, a long time ago, probably around 2003. I was in another band at the time called Irving, but I wanted to get away from indie pop. So, I started writing songs and figured people would just join me. People did, but they were in other bands so members rotated in and out and I figured I would just write on my own. When I started touring more, I got more of a set band.

A: You said that you've played with a lot of people over the years. Where are those former band members now?

ABC: Yeah, a lot of people. The drummer from Beck, Joe from Social Tickets and Solan from Great Wall are all former bandmates and friends of mine.

A: How did you hook up with your current record label, Dangerbird Records?

ABC: They are based in L.A., just like Sea Wolf. We started playing shows to get our name out there and then did a residency with Spacelands, which is also in L.A. There were lines out the door every night. Our friends from Social Tickets just kept talking to Dangerbird about us and we were getting some good buzz so they came to check us out. Then they wanted to sign us as did a few other labels, but I'm glad we're with them.

A: How has your music evolved over the past few years?

ABC: The songs I'm writing now are a little different. Man, I don't know, it is really hard to say exactly, but now the songs are not so sentimental. I guess that's how to best describe it.

A: What is your vision for Sea Wolf's future?

ABC: Just to keep playing music that excites people and excites us, whoever "us" may be.

A: Have you played at a lot of college shows?

ABC: Actually, we haven't played at any college shows, which is surprising. Wait, no that's not true. We played UCLA about a year ago.

A: Who are you listening to now?

ABC: In terms of new artists, I really like the new Wolf Parade record and the Peapockets record. For old stuff, I love



DANGERBIRD RECORDS

The man behind the music of L.A. based band Sea Wolf, Alex Brown Church, chatted with The Vista about musical connections and influences.

this crazy Turkish rock band from the 70s called Mogilar.

A: Why did you choose to name your band Sea Wolf?

ABC: It comes from Jack London's novel, Sea Wolf, which is a book I really like. He's from Oakland and I'm from Berkeley and I feel a real connection with him from that along with a number of other reasons.

A: What musicians would you call your biggest influences?

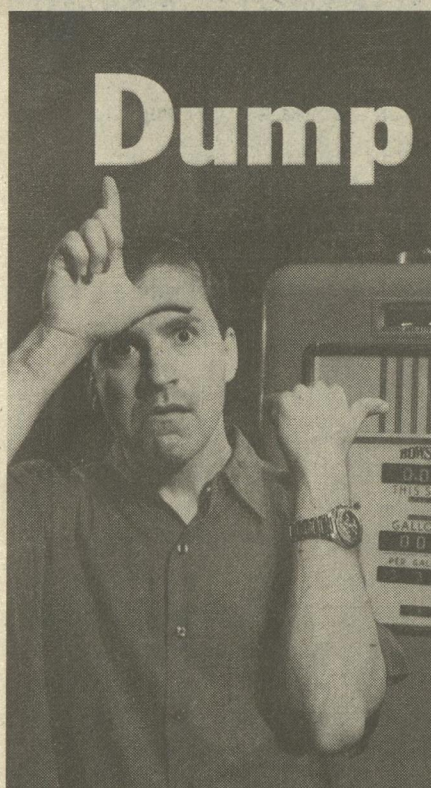
ABC: For my influences, I can't really say. Anybody who you like and listen to is an influence. I'm not at the stage where I am emulating musicians anymore. I'm kind of doing my own thing now. Ten years ago, things were different and I would have said Belle and Sebastian,

among a few others.

A: Recommended track on your newest album?

ABC: My favorite song we play kind of changes. I guess currently it is "Winter Windows."


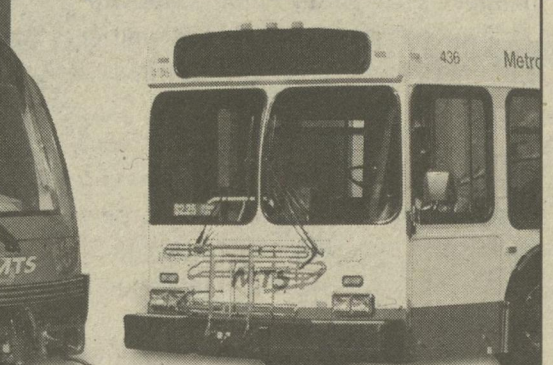
Surprisingly Church picked neither of the songs in which he has received the most buzz. "You're A Wolf" was featured in a General Motors commercial which aired during the 2008 Summer Olympics and "Ses Monuments" played during a Radio Shack advertisement for the 2007 holiday season. If you missed out on last Wednesday's show, never fear, because this band plays in Southern California frequently and often returns to San Diego. Just check them out at their MySpace page: myspace.com/seawolf.



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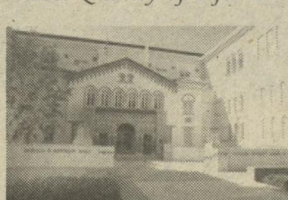


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Princeton Review rankings, Best 170 Law Schools, 2008

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La Comida Corner with Scott and Mr. Sergio



SCOTT NOVAK & SERGE SEPLOVICH
STAFF WRITER & OPINION EDITOR

Scott: I hope you have your exploring pants on, dear reader, because this week for Comida Corner Mr. Sergio and I will be venturing into the dark realm that lies just beyond the safety of Mission Beach.

Serge: I know we said we would review a vegetarian spot this week, but we were wearing low-grade exploring pants and only made it as far as Pacific Beach. It was in this unfamiliar territory that we indulged in some fine Italian cuisine. Pasta Espresso was its name: a quaint Italian café tucked in the corner of Haines and Garnet Street.

SN: While the front of the restaurant is unassuming, nestled ever-so-sneakily behind a grove of trees, the swirling aromas and explosive flavors

that lie in wait behind the squeaky screen door will literally detonate any stress or worries you may be carrying into a cloud of Parmesan that will be sprinkled perfectly atop your waiting dish of delicious pasta.

SS: The menu offers four magnificent choices of fresh pasta sauces to quell your growling stomach. In addition to the four types of pasta, you can choose from a slew of different types of homemade noodles. While staring at the menu, I found myself going back and forth from the angel hair pasta doused in tacchino rosso to fire spirals (spicy cork-screw shaped pasta) in marina sauce to whole wheat noodles with fettucine alfredo. The friendly gentleman behind the counter quickly spotted my frustration and informed me that I could mix and match both sauces and pasta. I decided to go bold and chose all three noodles covered with all three sauces.

SN: When the realization that this man could make all my wildest pasta fantasies come true finally set in, I could barely contain my excitement. My order was almost identical to Mr. Sergio's, but I opted for the spinach fettucine with pesto sauce in lieu of the fire spirals (spicy food makes my tummy grumble). But the fun didn't stop there, reader, oh no it did not! I found that for only \$1.50 more you can

bonus size your meal and be treated to a ridiculous portion of pasta, complete with a breadstick and scrumptious side salad.

SS: We sat down at the bar staring at all the cool artwork neatly arranged on the every wall. One series of paintings portrays the transformation of a Mohawk-headed punk to some sort of Ghost Rider-esque, flaming skull man. Once we'd satisfied our artistic sides, Scott and I kept our short attention spans occupied with the cool magazines and etch-a-sketch on the bar top.

SN: Having a penchant for puzzles and such, I tried my hand at the etch-a-sketch. I proudly showed off my lewd tracings of magic etch-a-sketch material to my partner in crime, but received a mere shake of the head and a deep sigh from the elderly woman sitting directly behind him. Discouraged, but still impatient, I perused the flyers and small promotional cards for local businesses and events that were scattered over the countertop. After a short wait, we were presented with our respective feasts and proceeded to gorge ourselves on the amazing combinations of pastas and sauces that we had ordered.

SS: My plan of attack was simple—salad first, bread sticks and pasta next. I devoured the salad sprinkled with a

light vinaigrette. It was delicious, and a good starter to the Italian feast. I then moved on to the pasta, which was split in three sections, organized by sauce. The steaming pasta melted the loads of Parmesan cheese I poured on. My mouth was experiencing an array of different tastes, it was sensory overload. It was as if my taste buds were being massaged by angels with all kinds of pasta sauces rubbed all over their tiny, cherubic hands.

SN: As hungry as I'd been when I'd first entered the friendly little cha-teau, I found myself unable to clean my plate. I didn't even come close to finishing my meal (though my stuffed gullet didn't stop me from occasional nibbles), which turned out to be a blessing in disguise. The momentary defeat allowed me the opportunity to enjoy these succulent vittles on the following morning, as an easily microwaved lunch. I paid a meager \$10 for the two scrumptious experiences and I have yet to look back on this decision. If you find yourself traipsing through the heart of Pacific Beach, dear reader, make sure to give Pasta Espresso a try and see what you've been missing. Any complaints can be directed to Mr. Sergio.

SS: Good thing you won't have any. This place is truly a gem. Stay tuned next week for another review.



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"Nick and Norah" in theaters Friday

**NICK AND NORAH, continued
from page 13**

Q: Are you still rocking the Ellen DeGeneres look?

MC: No. Currently its grown out into a kind of mane that I wanted to reveal to the world on this press tour.

Q: Michael, lately there have been a lot of renewed references to your role as a teenage father in "Juno" because of the pregnancy of the daughter of vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin at the age of 17. What do you think about having your movie talked about in that context?

MC: Well, I had a feeling when I took the part that something like that would happen. That Sarah Palin would run and her teen would be pregnant and so I'm glad that it finally was fulfilled.

Q: You've played the awkward teenager in many of your movies. Do you want to branch out and kind of play some other types of characters and, if so, which types of characters would those be?

MC: I'm currently working on a project where I kidnap a young boy and proceed to smack him around.

Q: Kat, you have a YouTube channel and, Michael, you used YouTube to show "Drunk History." What attracted you guys to that type of filmmaking?

MC: I just did it with my friend Derek Waters. He does this live comedy

show in LA and he was making it for that and it was fun.

KD: I've had this written blog for like seven years, so when YouTube came around, it was just another way to blog and it just seemed like a natural thing and a kind of fun thing.

Q: Would either of you like to film a movie outside of the comedic genre?

KD: I think I can speak for both of us when we say that it just depends on the script. And if the script happens to be funny, then so be it. But also it comes to happen where you're playing a sort of dramatic role in a comedy or vice versa. It just depends on the material and the director and what you want to do.

Q: "Nick and Norah" has been compared to the classic film "Say Anything." Do you guys agree with that?

KD: I don't think it's like that movie. I think it is a unique film with unique characters. I mean it's based on the book. And I think we do it justice. It's pretty different from other things. I've never seen anything like it.

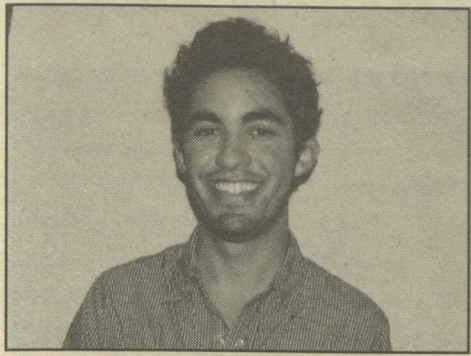
MC: Although John Cusack was originally cast as Norah.

"Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist," hits theaters tomorrow. Check it out tonight at AMC Theaters La Jolla 12 at 12:01 a.m.

8657 Villa La Jolla Dr
La Jolla, CA 92037

San Diego culture scene

Have a seat in *The Living Room*



GIOVANNI GONZALES
CAMPUS FOCUS CO-EDITOR

This week's coffee adventure led me not too far from campus. The Living Room Coffee house is by far one of the best coffee shops in San Diego. While it has various locations in San Diego, two of which are particularly close to USD, it is by no means another cookie-cutter coffee chain.

The Living Room started off just as a "ma and pa" shop located by San Diego State University, but it has expanded to five shops all committed to serving the best coffee, tea and food in town. Each location is unique and offers delicious sandwiches, salads, pastries and cakes.

If you aren't a coffee aficionado, try The Living Room's amazing selection of cakes and tarts. For coffee drinkers, both traditional and more unique

drinks are served, I would recommend the Café Svizzera or the Iced Bomb Alaska.

The two shops closest to USD are located in Old Town and Point Loma. Many people favor the shop in Old Town, situated in an old house on San Diego Avenue. This main street location is exciting and energetic because it is bustling with students, tourists and local San Diegans. The Living Room in Old Town is especially nice during the evening hours with ample porch lighting for studying or conversation.

My personal favorite is in Point Loma, situated inside a Victorian home. This location is the quieter of the two since it is in a residential area. The patio and porch are much bigger than the Old Town locale, but unless you get there early enough most of the outdoor seating tends to be taken.

Take some time to visit The Living Room in Old Town or Point Loma, I guarantee you won't be disappointed.

The Living Room-Point Loma
1018 Rosecrans Street
858.222.6852
Mon. - Sun.: 6 a.m.-midnight

The Living Room-Old Town
2541 San Diego Avenue
619.325.4445
Sun. - Thurs.: 7a.m. - 10 p.m.
Fri. - Sat. 7a.m. - midnight

Not so novel film



LAUREN MILLSAGLE
STAFF WRITER

Based on the novel by Chuck Palahniuk, the film "Choke" is an amusing dark comedy that has all the makings to be a new indie cult classic. However, despite its potential, "Choke" failed to fully develop its dysfunctional characters and could have been edgier given its creatively offensive plot.

"Choke" revolves around Vincent (Sam Rockwell), a sex addict that is trying to cope with his mother's (Anjelica Huston) worsening dementia. The film flips between Vincent's deteriorating quality of life working at a colonial theme park and flashbacks of his childhood spent doing the bidding of his coke-addicted mother.

Director Gregg Clark does a great job setting up the complexities of the plot, but it doesn't follow through like a novel would. There is no doubt that "Choke" is entertaining, but Clark only scratched the surface with his film rendition of Palahniuk's original work.

CLASSIFIEDS

Box Office Staff

Lamb's Players Theatre is looking for a motivated, problem solving, quick thinking, clear communicator with a sense of humor to be a part of its Patron Services team. Must be able to represent the theatre to the general public in a helpful, courteous and professional manner. Must have good communication and social skills. Must be punctual and reliable. Comfort working with computers necessary, experience with Macs helpful. Pay is \$10/hr after an initial training period. Email cover letter and resumé to Susan Campbell (susan.campbell@lambplayers.org.), Box Office Manager, or fax to (619) 437-8904.

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Lamb's Players Theatre is looking for an upbeat, motivated, problem-solving person with a sense of humor to work evenings and weekends as part of its House Management and Concessions staff. Must be 21 or older, able to represent the theatre to the general public in a helpful, courteous and professional manner, solving seating issues, supervising volunteer ushers, and Concessions. Background with food service is a plus, but not necessary. Must be punctual and reliable. Pay is \$10/hr after an initial training period. Email cover letter and resumé to Susan Campbell (susan.campbell@lambplayers.org.), Box Office Manager, or fax to (619) 437-8904.

Telesales Staff

Lamb's Players Theatre seeks a self-motivated person with positive attitude who desires opportunity to earn an average of \$18-\$28/hr making outbound subscription sales calls, selling Lamb's Players' season tickets. Love of theatre is a plus, sales experience preferred but not necessary. If you like people and have a charismatic personality, you will be successful! Hourly plus commission and weekly bonuses, plus complimentary tickets. Evenings, Sun-Thur, 5:30-8:30. Email cover letter and resumé to Ed Hofmeister (ed.hofmeister@lambplayers.org), or fax to (619) 437-6053.

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CARRIE WIDDER
STAFF WRITER

Thanks anonymous criminal. You've done a good job. You successfully broke into my car, damaged my back window and took one of my most prized possessions. My beautiful 13-inch MacBook on which I have saved all my articles, all my school work and my iTunes library.

I hope you're proud of yourself, unnamed criminal whom I have decided is a delinquent and probably did the crime with a baseball bat, or a crowbar, there are multiple options.

You know what, enjoy my music. Someone should be getting some use out of the near 3,000 songs, TV shows and movies I have on there. Enjoy Wax Tailor. I just bought it two weeks ago, and I was digging it a lot. And you know what? I hope you get off your crime addiction and become addicted to all the seasons of Sex and

the City I downloaded on there too. Good for you. Pat yourself on the back, friend.

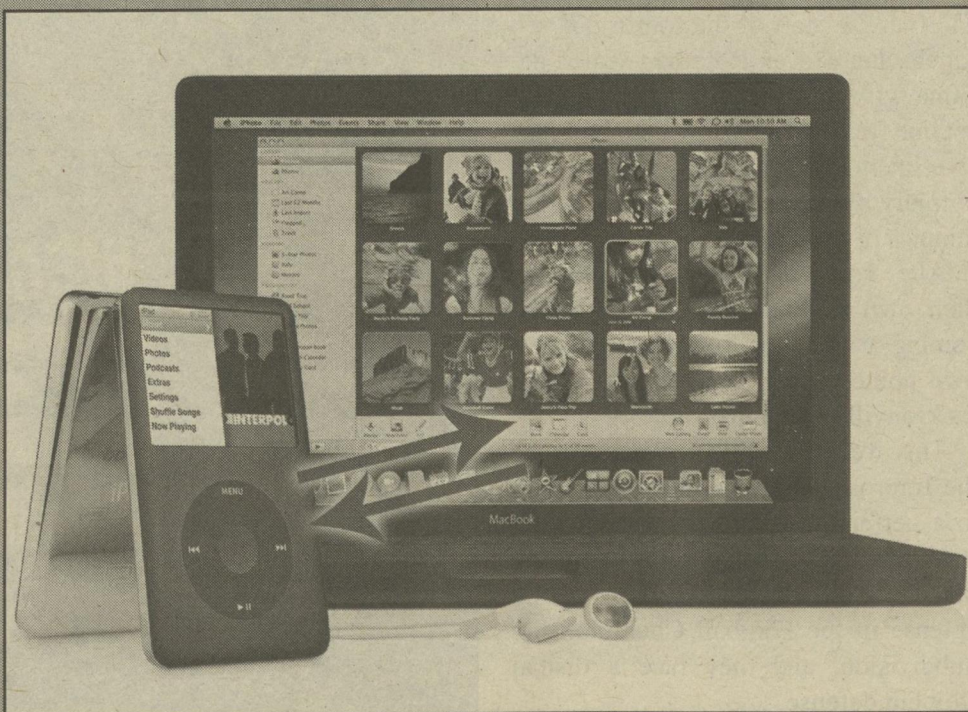
So I write this on my new MacBook. No, it's not the same, I'll answer that right now. First off, it's white, which actually has been a slight adjustment. Secondly, between the time of April 2007 and now, Apple has been doing some crazy things with their laptops, and I am quite frankly feeling a little out of my element. But, the show must go on.

I am here to tie in a website I discovered this afternoon. As I previously stated, I had a lot of music on my old computer.

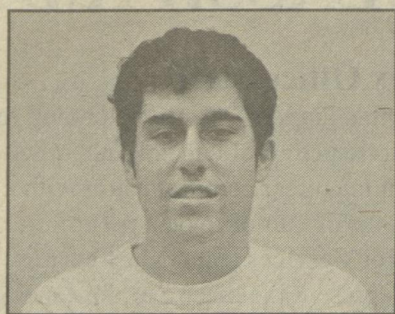
A lot of people have been tell-

ing me that I can easily transfer the music from my iPod to my laptop, but I am skeptical to try. However, I found this link, zolved.com/synapse/view_content/19075, which shows step by step how to transfer music. The homepage in general offers a lot of tips for those who are both technologically challenged and savvy. And, if you're still confused, there is a link to find a local technician in your neighborhood. How nice.

So anonymous criminal, you may have lowered my spirits for a brief span of time, but I am the one who will recover her iTunes library. And you will still be the delinquent who stole a computer.



PETER CHO/THE VISTA



No more upsets please

RAYMOND AYALA
SPORTS EDITOR

If you're a fan of the upset, then you must have loved this past week of sports. Me personally, I dislike it. Now don't get me wrong, the occasional upset is fine and it is great to keep hopes alive in sports, but the unexpected wins I witnessed this weekend really bothered me.

I was en route to New Orleans to celebrate my 21st birthday, when I decided to watch No. 1 USC vs. Oregon State game. I expected a blowout and nothing special out of the lowly Oregon State team but that was obviously not the case. As I sat at the airport watching USC get outplayed on both sides of the ball by a terrible Oregon State team, I felt dismayed.

Saturday arrived pretty quickly, and it was much of the same. No. 4 Florida came into a game against Mississippi as the heavy favorite and were led by the current reigning Heisman Trophy winner, Tim Tebow. Tebow and his teammates went back and forth with Ole Miss, but a hungry Mississippi team trapped the Gators. If that wasn't enough to ruin my Saturday, along came Michigan. The Michigan Wolverines played against No. 9 Wisconsin. I've been a big Wisconsin fan ever since I took in my first game at Camp Randall Stadium and Michigan was coming off of a loss against Notre Dame.

Somehow Michigan put up enough points to defeat No. 9 Wisconsin. Just when I thought the upset bug had stopped in time for the nightcap, along came No. 8 Alabama who made the No. 3 Georgia Bulldogs look like puppies in their own stadium. As soon as Georgia went down, so did my faith in college football.

True parody in sports is what keeps the viewer interested but I just don't know how to pick the winner in college football games anymore.

When it comes to upsets, I realized that when your favorite team pulls the upset it is one of the best feelings in the world, but when your team is the favorite and loses, it makes you question how a team like Oregon State could ever beat USC. Upsets like that should never happen.

True, USD basketball was on the good end of upsets last year, just ask Kentucky and Uconn, but when my teams in college football go down in a heap of flames, it still makes me upset. So next time, I am rooting for the underdog, because that seems to be a big theme in 2008 collegiate athletics.

Toreros steamroll Bulldogs 43-17

RUBIN RESNICK
CHIEF COPY EDITOR

Another week, another 43 points. The French call this phenomenon *deja vu* but the Toreros prefer the term consistency.

After last week's cross country jaunt to North Carolina, the football team hopped back on a plane for their second away game, which occurred at Drake University in Iowa last Saturday.

Like a neighborhood bully that won't leave his weak and underdeveloped victims alone, the Toreros came storming into Drake Stadium with a point to prove. Drake was highlighted as a school that was capable of taking down the preseason favorite, USD. But, like a lamb to the slaughter, the Bulldogs unwittingly entered a game in which they had no chance.

The highly ranked Toreros offense and defense combined for a total seven touchdowns against the lethargic Bulldogs.

Quarterback Sebastian Trujillo deftly commanded the offense going for 23 of 28 pass attempts, a highly efficient 82 percent completion rate, for 212 yards and three touchdowns. Running back Phil Morelli had another productive performance with 93 yards gained on 22 carries with an additional 17 yards receiving and three touchdowns.

While these performances are respectable on their own merit, wide receiver John Matthews broke the school's career touchdown reception record. It now stands at 38 touchdown receptions and with seven games remaining on the schedule, it is likely that the record could be set as high as 45 touchdowns.

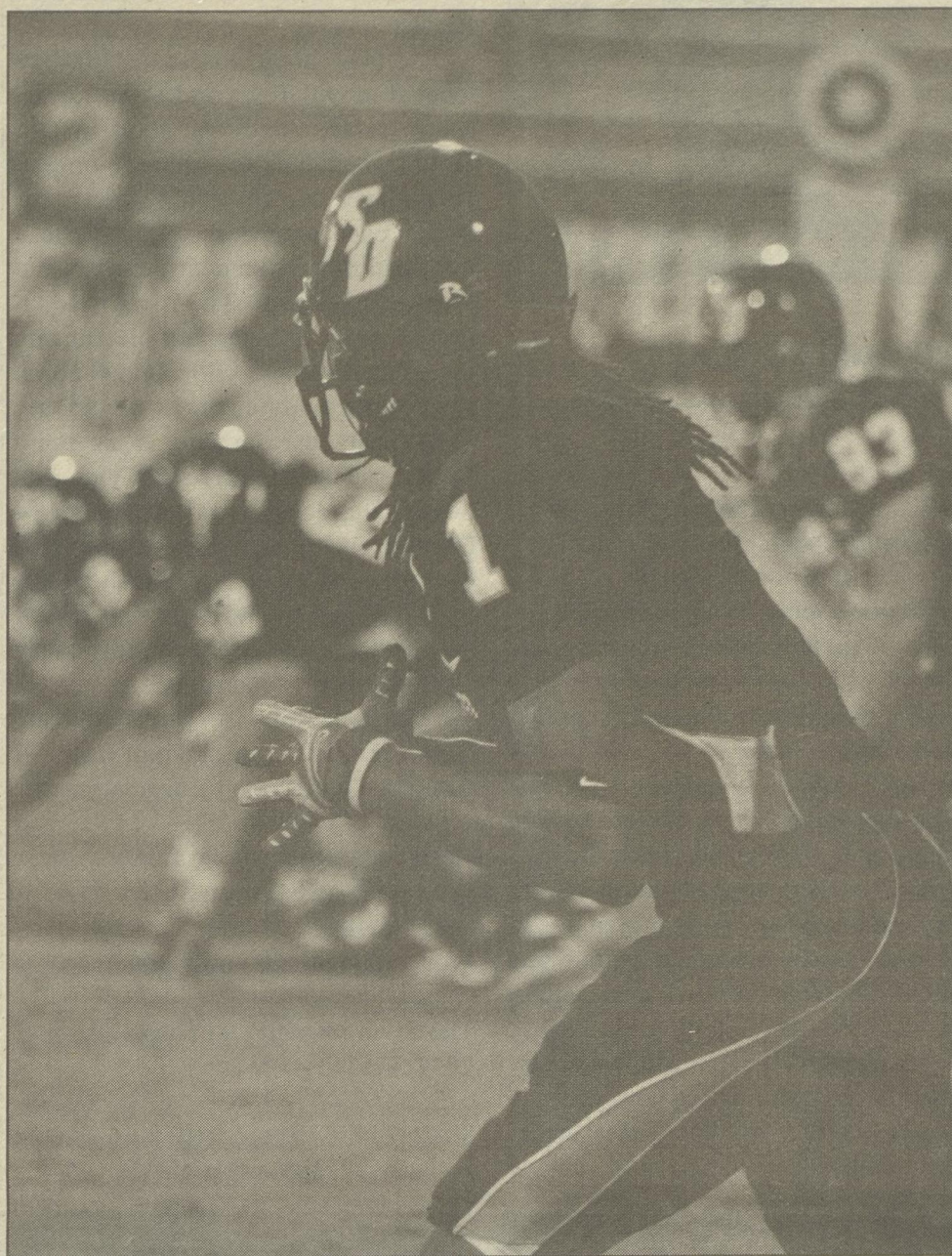
Matthews must average at least one touchdown reception per game for the next seven games, which is highly probable if the Torero offense maintains their 40 point per game average.

The defense, led by defensive back Al Adeyemi and linebacker Kyle Negrete, quickly discovered that the Bulldog's bark was worse than their bite. They set the tone by making an interception on the first play of the game.

Drake's next four possessions resulted in consecutive three and out situations, ultimately giving the Toreros a 35-10 at the start of the fourth quarter. Linebacker Steven Roseman sealed the game with a breakaway 70-yard interception return touchdown and defensive lineman John G'Sell added insult to injury by scoring a safety in the final minutes of the game.

After housebreaking the Bulldogs in their own stadium during their homecoming game, the Toreros host their own homecoming Saturday facing the Jacksonville Dolphins.

This weekend will be a big one for the Toreros as they continue on the path to a perfect season. Expect a blowout for San Diego as they possess the fourth ranked scoring offense and scoring defense in the Football Championship Subdivision, and they face a dismal Dolphin defense.



RYAN BRENNAN/THE VISTA

Above: Sophomore wide receiver Godfrey Smith has been one of the Toreros top receiving targets this year. Smith has 109 yards receiving on a very talented squad.

Below: Junior quarterback Sebastian Trujillo had another solid game against Drake this week. Trujillo is quickly becoming the best quarterback in the Pioneer League.



RYAN BRENNAN/THE VISTA

Men's soccer ties UCLA: still looking for first win

DARREN FEENEY
STAFF WRITER

The Toreros (0-5-3) could have scored their first victory of the season Thursday night while head coach Seamus McFadden could have attained his 300th career victory. Instead, the men's soccer team wrapped up the final leg of a three-game home stand at the Torero Stadium tying University of California Los Angeles (2-3-2) 1-1 in double overtime. It was the second double-overtime match in the last three meetings for the men's soccer team and their third of the season.

A lack of offensive possession in their own third of the field has plagued the Toreros so far but a change in formation, offensive scheme and player personnel resulted in a more potent offensive attack, causing the Toreros to out shoot the Bruins 17-11.

Slow starts have hindered the Toreros in previous matches which was once again evident in this game. Just seven minutes into the game, UCLA's Michael Stephens gave the Bruins an early advantage as a potential goal was headed away by USD defender Corey Norris but deflected off Bruin midfielder Christian Vazquez right to Stephens who fired a low screamer into the back of the net.

USD responded before halftime by a 40th minute equalizer by Andrew Feld. Teammate Brandon Kelley found

a cutting Feld at the top of the penalty box. With three UCLA defenders in the vicinity, Feld weaved his way through and sent off a deep shot from 25 yards which found nothing but nylon.

A physical second half ensued a scoreless 45 minutes, but the Toreros had more looks at goal, recording eight shots between the frames. The highlight of the second half came in the 65th minute in a rampant turn of events. Feld was tackled from behind inside the penalty box by a Bruin defender but the official thought otherwise. A mere 10 seconds later, UCLA's Eder Arreola was given a yellow card on a tackle that was not quite as vicious as the former. Following the free kick, a go-ahead goal by JT Howlan was called off by the linesman due to a USD player being offside.

USD junior defender Ryan Peterman turned in a fantastic effort all evening long. Peterman was flawless on the defensive end of the field and sent one of many useful crosses into the goal box in the 89th minute, which almost sent Toreros fans home with a victory.

Neither team was able to produce in extra frames but the Toreros out-shot UCLA 4-1.

The Toreros will be out of action this weekend as they prepare for West Coast Conference play. They take on St. Mary's (1-1-6) Friday, Oct. 3 at 4 p.m. in Moraga, Cali.



ALEX DRU/THE VISTA

Top: Junior forward Andrew Feld punts the ball as he tries to get by a UCLA midfielder. Feld has played a major role in improving the Toreros squad this season.

Below: Senior defender Dane McCleary and sophomore defender JD Penilton are ready to attack the ball. The Toreros defense has lacked punch this season.



ALEX DRU/THE VISTA

Women's soccer continues dominance with big wins

GYNO POMARE
STAFF WRITER

The 21st ranked women's soccer team is coming off an impressive pair of wins from last past weekend. Both games were shutouts as the Toreros defeated UC Riverside 3-0 and Idaho State 6-0. With the wins, it extends their unbeaten record to nine, including two ties.

Three diferent Toreros scored in a game against UC Riverside at home Friday night. Christine Mock would score the first goal of the match in the 42nd minute of the match. This would come off an assist from Natalie Vinti. The second goal would come from Jen Mello who received a pass from Natalie Garcia and would find the back of the net. Addie Cartan would score the final goal of the game in the 88th minute, pushing the Toreros margin of victory to three.

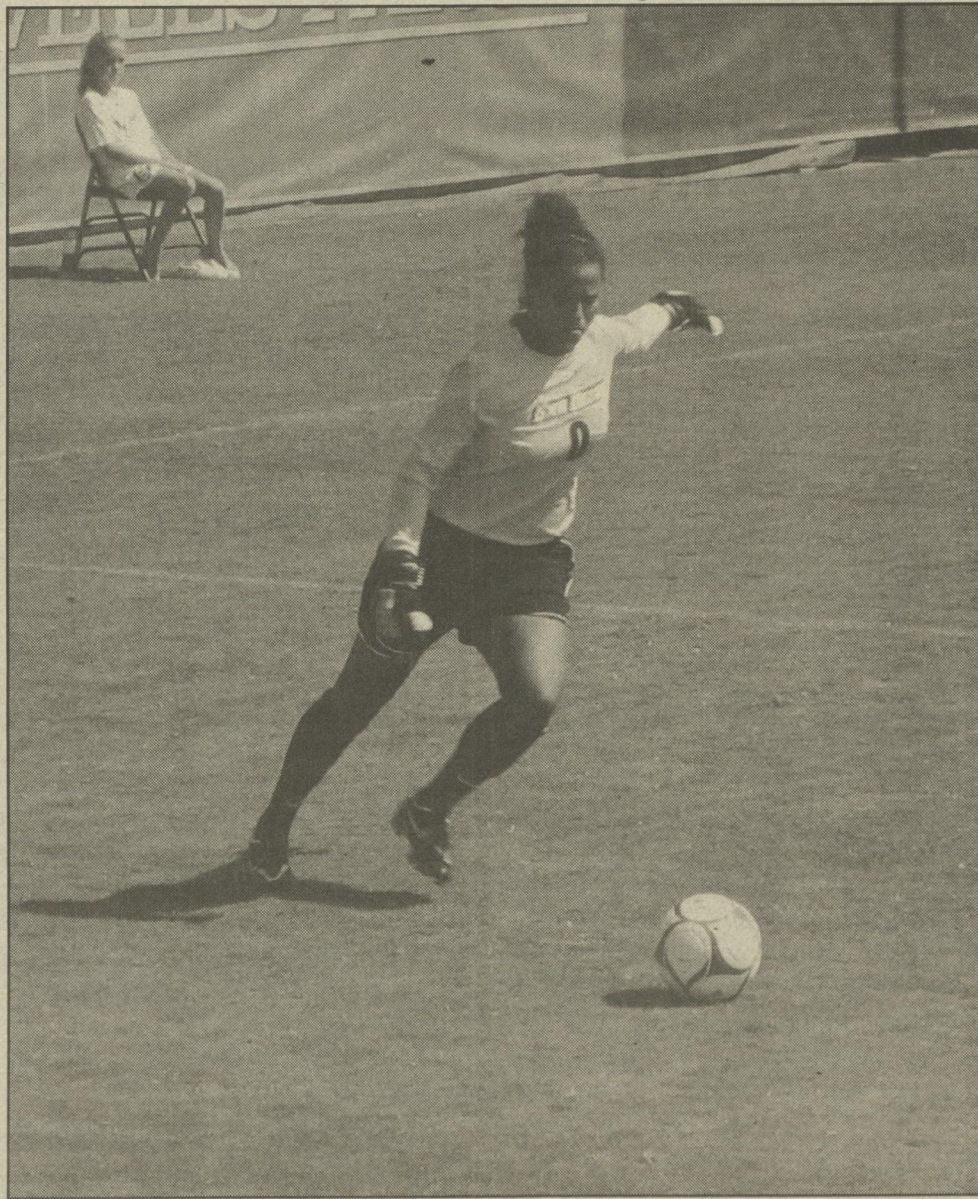
This was senior goalie Brittany Cameron's third game in a posting a shutout.

"We just go out there and work hard everyday in practice. We do not care who we play that week, a top ranked team or not, we prepare hard for every game so we can go out and perform," Cameron said. Performing well is something the women's soccer team has been doing all year.

The Toreros would then take action Sunday against Idaho State where they capitalized on a variety of shots and scored goals from four different players. The Toreros Jen Mello scored half of all the goals in the game with her first goal coming in the 2nd minute of the match. Jackie Zinke would get a pass from Al-

lison Wolters and get another goal in the 10th minute. The Toreros would score one more time before the half on a goal from Maggie Maguire that would give the Toreros a 3-0 lead at the half. In the start of the second half, Mello would

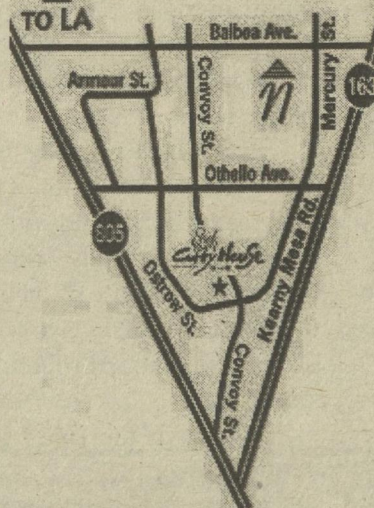
score the next two goals in the 63rd and 65th minute of play giving her a total of three goals on the day. Hallie Huston scored the final goal of the match on a pass from Maguire giving the Toreros their sixth goal of the match.



KATIE LOPORE/THE VISTA

Senior goalkeeper Brittany Cameron has had a great season. She is considered to be one of the top goalkeepers in the WCC and has only given up four goals.

The Toreros women's soccer team will return to action again Sunday, taking on the Bruins of UCLA at noon. The Bruins are ranked No. 3 in the nation and have tied teams twice, but have never lost a game.



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MLB playoff preview: does your team have a realistic shot?

JUSTIN SAKS
STAFF WRITER

With the arrival of October it only means one thing, and it is not Halloween. After six grueling months, 162 games (163 for two teams) and 27 trades, the MLB post-season is finally upon us. Before looking at the four match-ups for the first round, let's take a quick look at some teams that didn't make it.

The playoffs will look different for the first time in 13 years because it will not feature the New York Yankees. Despite a payroll just shy of \$210 million, a team full of all-star caliber players, their final season at historic Yankee Stadium and a new manager, the Yankees were unable to win enough games to qualify for postseason play.

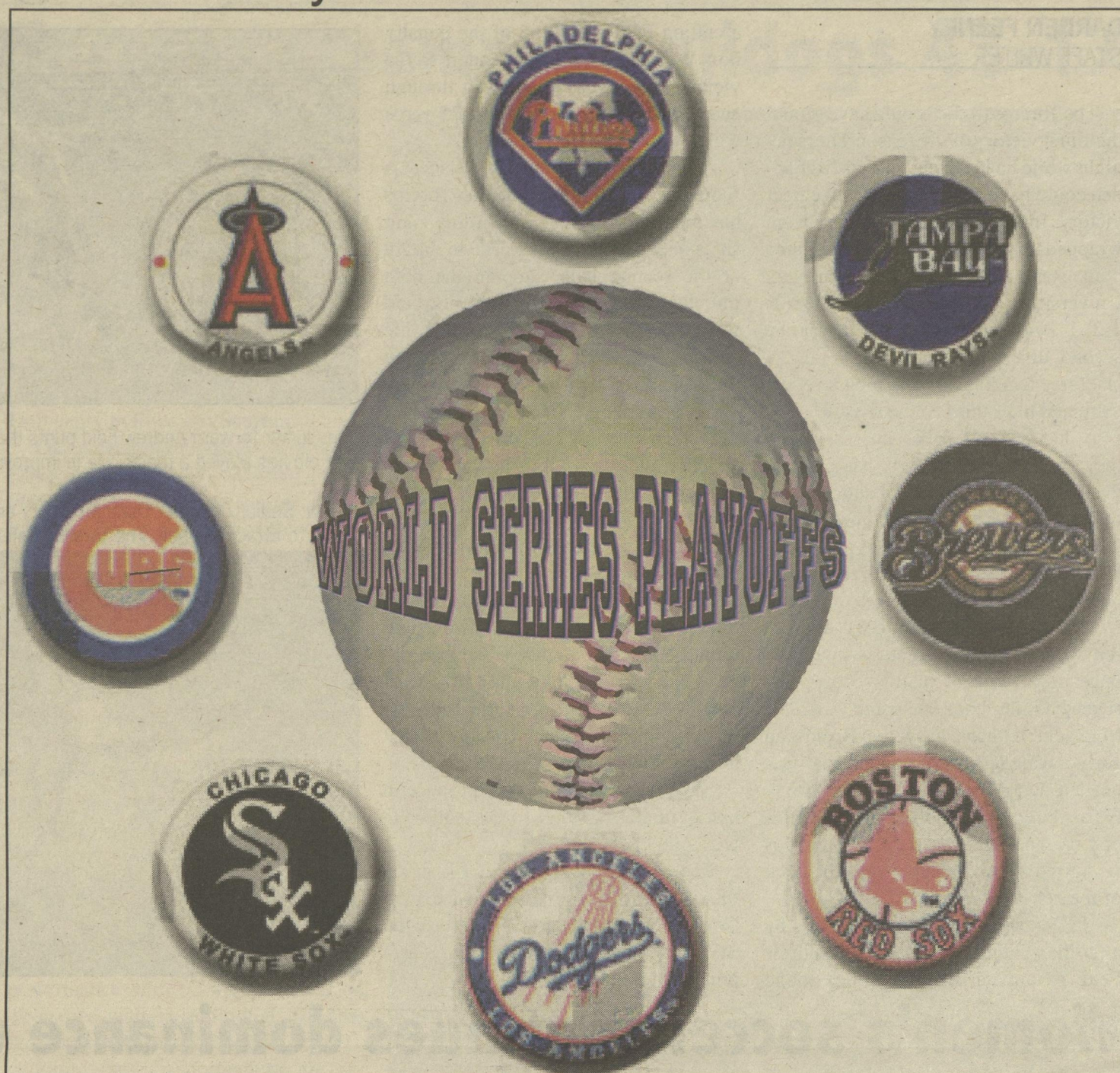
The New York Mets made history by becoming the first team for two straight seasons to lose their final game of the year, eliminating them from playoff contention. This year's collapse wasn't as colossal as last year's, but with the addition of Johan Santana and a payroll over \$135 million, it would be an understatement to say this team underperformed.

After the first month of the season, the Diamondbacks led the Major League in wins. They were 20-8 and had a five game lead in their division. No other first place team had a lead of even two games. Despite this good start and a talented team, they were unable to hold off the resurgent, Manny Ramirez-powered, Los Angeles Dodgers for the National League West title.

The Detroit Tigers probably made the biggest splash in the offseason with their acquisition of both Miguel Cabrera and Dontrelle Willis from the Florida Marlins. Many experts picked the Tigers to not only make the playoffs but to go to the World Series. The Tigers got off to a putrid start and were unable to recover. This left both them and their \$137 million payroll at home for October baseball.

Finally, probably the most devastating of all the teams not making the playoffs is the Minnesota Twins. After 162 games of baseball there was a dead tie for first place in the American League Central. The one game playoff between the White Sox and the Minnesota Twins determined what team would advance the playoffs. Unfortunately for the Twins, it was the White Sox who advanced to postseason play. Now, let's take a look at these four first round, best of five, playoff series.

With their victory in the 163rd game



AUDREY HOEL/THE VISTA

The teams in this year's MLB playoffs are less predictable than in years past. The Tampa Bay Devil Rays are making their first playoff appearance in franchise history, while the Milwaukee Brewers are making their first playoff appearance since 1982.

of the season, the White Sox won the right to play against the surprising AL East champion Tampa Bay Rays. A casual baseball fan would be shocked to see that the Rays won the division that has been dominated for over the past decade by the Yankees and Boston Red Sox, but this really comes at no surprise. After countless losing seasons, and high draft picks, the Rays stockpiled a bunch of young talent and they are finally seeing results. The Rays are a young, athletic team that can hit for power and put runs up. Their pitching staff has been solid throughout the season and should hold up in the playoffs. The White Sox were a surprise team to win the Central, but they just don't have enough to beat the Rays. The Rays will win in four games.

The other AL match-up is by far the best series in the first round. It features the number one team in MLB this year against tough opponents.

The Toreros have been led by junior Amy Degroot, who has a team-leading 159 kills. Senior Jessica Nyrop has been playing brilliantly this year as well, leading the team with 370 assists.

The Toreros now enter conference play with a game tonight against Gonzaga and tomorrow against Portland. Both games will be played at the Jenny Craig Pavillion.

Men's Baseball

The men's baseball team will start its fall practices tomorrow. The Toreros are coming off of back-to-back WCC

Championships and are looking to achieve their goal of reaching the College World Series for the first time in school history. This season, the Toreros are expected to field a top tier pitching staff led by sophomore pitchers Kyle Blair and Sammy Solis, junior pitcher A.J. Griffin and senior pitcher Matt Couch.

In the National League, the first series is between the Philadelphia Phillies and the Milwaukee Brewers. The Brewers clinched the wild card on the last day of the season with their victory and the Mets loss. With their midseason acquisition of CC Sabathia and a talented young infield, this team seems to have the tools to win. The Phillies have a lot of talent themselves and will not go away easily. Their lineup includes the Major League home run leader in Ryan Howard and last year's MVP Jimmy

Rollins. Despite these dangerous players, the Brewers young talent will steal the show and win in five games.

Women's Cross Country

The women's cross country team finished 24th place at the UC Riverside Invitational 5k race. The team was led by sophomore Stacy Calderon who ran a team best 19:48. The Toreros next race

will be today as they participate in the Lehigh Paul Short Run Invitational in Bethlehem, Pa.

The final series is the one between the Chicago Cubs and the Los Angeles Dodgers. The last time the Cubs won the World Series was in 1908, and people have been riding the Cubs' bandwagon all season long. The Cubbies are a fundamentally sound team and have the talent and coaching staff that could take them to the World Series. They will have to get through Manny Ramirez and the Dodgers first. The Dodgers have been inconsistent all year in their pitching staff and they struggle to put up runs. Having Manny Ramirez in their lineup makes them a threat not only because of him, but how he makes the players around him better. To the surprise of many, the Dodgers will win the series in four.

will be today as they participate in the Lehigh Paul Short Run Invitational in Bethlehem, Pa.

Men's Basketball

The 2008-2009 men's basketball schedule was released earlier this week. The Toreros will be hosting Nevada, St. Mary's, Gonzaga and a team first Bracketbuster game at the Jenny Craig Pavillion.

The Toreros are returning as the same team that advanced to the 2nd round of the NCAA tournament. Seniors Brandon Johnson and Gyno Pomare are expected to lead this season.

TOREROS

Week in Review

RAYMOND AYALA
SPORTS EDITOR

Women's Volleyball

The women's volleyball team has had a successful season thus far, going 10-2 in non-conference play so far. The Toreros biggest wins came at home, when they were able to sweep the USD tournament for three consecutive wins